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THE "RED" REVOLUTION TRIUMPHANT.

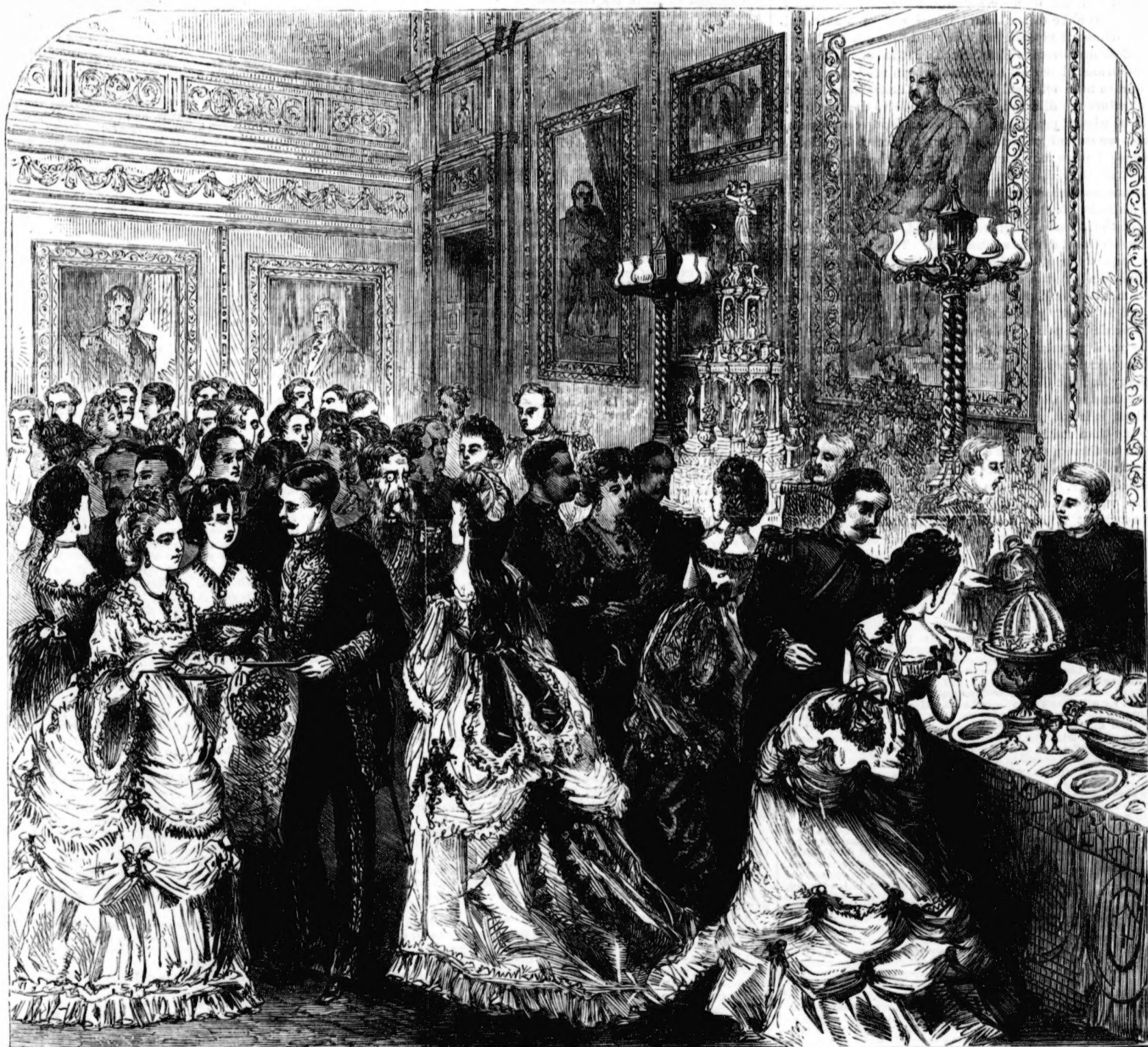
"Nothing succeeds like success." That is a French maxim; and the Parisians have once more proved its truth. But, then, there is success and success. So far, the "Red" Republicans of the French capital have triumphed; but their success cannot be deemed real till it be proved permanent. And its chance of permanency is exceedingly doubtful. We do not mean that the newly-elected Commune will be put down by force from without. The time for that has passed, even if there were means to do so available, or men at Versailles with nerve enough to use them; and neither seems to be forthcoming. Had the Montmartre rebellion been nipped in the bud, it might, perhaps, have been done at a small sacrifice; but the opportunity was allowed to pass; and, having temporised so far, the Government and the Assembly have little choice save to temporise still. But we do think it possible that the Commune and

the movement it represents may collapse from internal weakness.

A comparatively small number of the registered electors of Paris appear to have voted last Sunday; and, as the abstentions may be fairly assumed to represent dissatisfaction with the Central Committee and its proceedings, it seems clear that the new Commune has the hearty support of only a small minority of the people. The registered electors of Paris number about half a million, we believe; of these only 180,000 deposited their ballots in the urns on Sunday; of whom, again, only about three-fifths, it is stated, voted for men favourable to the dominant party. A full and a free vote, therefore, would probably give a majority in favour of "order," as identified with the Government at Versailles.

Then there are other elements of disintegration existing among the party known as the "Reds." The aims of all the members of that party are not the same, and differences

will speedily become apparent now that success seems achieved. Some will be content with what has been accomplished; others will seek to proceed to realise the idea of a social as well as a political republic—to demand community of goods as well as equality of rights; and a split will ensue. Those who have still something to lose, however little, will come to distrust those who have everything to gain. Idle men must have food and clothing as well as busy ones, and, as the means of subsistence at command are anything but inexhaustible, consumption without production cannot go on for ever or for long. A struggle for existence must speedily arise, and in that fact there are further elements of dissolution of the social-democratic Republic. Indeed, the struggle has already begun, and the Commune and its officers have become as exacting requisitioners as were the Germans. Then the leaders of the movement are men whose names are either unknown and command no confidence or respect,



THE LATE ROYAL MARRIAGE: THE WEDDING BREAKFAST.—(SEE "ILLUSTRATED TIMES," MARCH 25, PAGE 187.)



or they are too well known, and inspire distrust if not positive aversion. Finally, the bourgeoisie of Paris, ruined, broken in means, cowed, and heartless as they now seem, must yet have manhood enough left to resent, and by-and-by resist, total spoliation; and total spoliation—utter bankruptcy—must needs be the result of a community of over 2,000,000 souls living in voluntary or enforced idleness.

A reaction, then, it would seem to outsiders, must ere long set in, to eventuate, most probably, in the collapse of the socialistic revolution, if not of Republicanism altogether. That has generally been the course of things in France. Extreme doctrines prevail for a time; violent measures are advocated, if not actually adopted; distrust is engendered; and rational freedom is first compromised and then destroyed. The like danger threatens Republicanism in France now as aforetime; and it is the existence of that danger which induces us to deprecate the course the dominant party in Paris have pursued and are now pursuing. Better, we think, for the men of Belleville and Montmartre to have been content with a part than to imperil the whole fabric of national liberty, and perhaps throw the country back into the hands, and the horrors, of a military despotism, as has been the fate of France on more than one occasion.

Some of the demands put forth by the insurgents—for such it is convenient still to call them, though they are now the rulers of Paris—are in themselves not unreasonable; and it is more to the manner of asking, than to the things asked, that exception can be taken. They claim that the capital and other large towns shall have the privilege of choosing their own civic functionaries and of regulating their own municipal affairs. That seems no more than just, and was advocated by the Liberal Opposition under the Empire. Further, the right to choose their officers is demanded for the National Guards, and that Paris shall be garrisoned by National Guards alone. How far compliance with these claims would conduce to good discipline in the civic forces, or ensure peace and safety for Paris, may be open to question; but neither is inconsistent in itself with rational freedom or sound Republicanism: all depends on the use likely to be made of the privileges asked. For both there is this much to be said:—That, as Paris has suffered grievously in the past from being borne down by the presence within her walls of praetorian bands, she may well be distrustful of a similar presence again. The army, in the hands alike of legitimate Kings and of a universal-suffrage-chosen Emperor, has been used to crush out liberty and to domineer over the Parisians. To get rid of the incubus, revolution and bloodshed have always been needed, and have not always been effectual; and, as it is desirable neither to again endure the disease nor have recourse to the remedy, it would be wise, if possible, to avert both. But, is it possible? Of that we cannot pretend, with our imperfect knowledge, to judge; but we may venture to say that the experiment is at least worth trial. Then it is demanded that the system devised under the late Emperor of attaching to the towns large rural districts, so that the votes of the latter may swamp those of the former, shall be abolished, and fairly homogeneous electoral districts substituted. This, to us, seems in every respect fair and reasonable. It was chiefly by skilful manipulation of the electoral districts that the Imperial Government secured its large majorities. A remedy for this evil is urgently needed, and the Assembly might very well concede the point. We must not forget that four fifths of the rural population of France is sunk in the crassest ignorance, can neither read nor write, and votes exactly as the clergy and the Government officials dictate. This is not a wholesome state of affairs; for if urban intelligence be turbulent, it is not more dangerous to liberty and national wellbeing than rustic ignorance and subservience.

So far as these points are concerned, the insurgents stand within their rights as citizens, and cannot be condemned by impartial critics. But when they verge into Communistic theories, and advance the absurd claim that their pet system of government is above discussion, and ought to obtain independent of the national will, they pass beyond reasonable limits and place themselves out of court by the very extravagance of their demands: things which, as it seems to us, a portion at least of the party now dominant in Paris has done, and is still doing.

THE UNEMPLOYED AND EMIGRATION.—Mr. Hibbert, M.P., and Mr. Fleming, the Parliamentary and Permanent Secretaries of the Poor-Law Board, on Monday received a deputation representing the unemployed working men of London, who appealed to the Government for aid, in the face of the present distress. The adoption of an emigration rate of a penny in the pound was suggested, one of the speakers declaring that it was useless to wait for collections or to depend upon assistance from societies. It was estimated that a penny rate upon the property in the metropolis would produce from £70,000 to £100,000; but even with £50,000 it was stated that 10,000 persons might be sent out to the colonies. In the absence of Mr. Stansfeld, at a meeting of the Cabinet, Mr. Hibbert promised that the views of the deputation should be made known to the right hon. gentleman.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN IRELAND.—The affairs of the Disestablished Church are attracting a great deal of public attention in Ireland, and the journals have a large portion of their space occupied with subscription lists to the Sustentation Fund. It is now assuming a more promising aspect, and a more cheerful tone prevails with regard to financial prospects. A meeting of the Representative Body was held on Tuesday, at which a letter from the Bishop of Down and Connor was read, announcing that the clergy of the diocese over which he presides have formally declared their willingness to commute. A return from the diocese of Derry and Raphoe was read, which stated that there are 146 commuting clergy in that diocese and twenty-one non-commuting. The clergy in that diocese, it is observed, have grievances to complain of as well as their neighbours; but they have declared that they will exact no conditions and hold out no threats, but cast in their lot with the Church. This excellent example will probably have its due effect upon others who have manifested a different spirit. A fresh impetus has been given to the liberality of the laity by the munificence of Mr. Henry Roe, distiller, who has generously undertaken at his own cost to restore the Cathedral of Christ Church, in accordance with a design prepared by Mr. Street, of London. This venerable structure is endeared to many Churchmen by its great antiquity and its historic associations, and they are delighted at the proposal. Others would prefer to see the funds which must be expended upon it devoted to other purposes, conceiving that the Cathedral of St. Patrick is quite enough for the Disestablished Church to maintain in the metropolis, and that new cathedrals in this city will be a costly anomaly. They would prefer to have it transformed into a Synod-hall for the meeting of the Church's assemblies. It is possible that a compromise may be effected between the two parties, but meanwhile Mr. Roe's offer will be gratefully accepted.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

THE REVOLUTION IN PARIS.

The revolutionists are now complete masters of Paris. The municipal elections, or choosing of the Commune, took place on Sunday, and resulted, as was expected, in the return of a large majority of the candidates of the Central Committee, and most of the members of that body have been elected, among them being the well-known names of Florens, Blanqui, Felix Pyat, and Gambon. The party of order was only successful in three arrondissements. A great number, however, abstained from voting, either out of fear or as not recognising the validity of the elections. Only about 180,000 electors out of 500,000 on the register went to the poll. This is less than half the number which voted for Trochu last November. The Central Committee has obtained a majority of fully two thirds. M. Louis Blanc is among the candidates who have been rejected. M. Gustave Florens, M. Felix Pyat, and M. Blanqui are among those who have been returned. Blanqui was elected three times, Pyat and Florens twice. It is expected that Blanqui will be president of the new Government, and that the power will centre in his hands and those of Florens, Pyat, Delescluze, Lefrançois, Vemorel, and the six who, acting as a sort of secret committee, have guided the policy of the Comité Central.

The Commune was proclaimed, at four o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, in the Place de l'Hôtel de Ville, where a platform, covered with red cloth, had been erected before the great entrance of Henri IV. The members of the Communal Council who have been elected were assembled on the platform, on which there was also placed a bust representing the Republic, wearing the Phrygian Cap of Liberty, ornamented with red ribbon. Round the platform and in the square tricolour and red flags were hoisted. The members of the Council delivered speeches, but it was impossible to approach sufficiently near to hear them. The Place de l'Hôtel de Ville was completely filled in by an immense number of National Guards, who gave the square the appearance of a forest of bayonets. The Rue Rivoli for a considerable distance, the adjoining quays, and the Boulevard de Sébastopol were also filled with an enormous crowd of National Guards, who several times in the course of the proceedings raised their caps in the air on the points of their bayonets and uttered a tremendous shout of "Long live the Republic!" Salvoes of artillery were fired from a battery on the quay. In the Place de l'Hôtel de Ville there are at least sixty guns, pointing so as to defend the square against any attack from the adjoining streets. The Mayors of the 4th and 9th arrondissements, and M. Clémenceau, Mayor of Montmartre, have resigned their posts, on the ground that the appointment of the Municipal Council changes the character of the powers and functions of the mayors of arrondissements. M. Chiron, who has been elected councillor for the second arrondissement, and three others, elected in other arrondissements, have declined to accept their seats. M. Jarard, the Mayor of the 2nd arrondissement, who was conspicuous as the leader in effecting a conciliation and in permitting the elections, has declined to sit in the Commune, and has resigned his seat. The reason given is that he believed his mandate to be purely municipal, and cannot sit in a council which usurps superior functions.

The Commune held its first meeting on Tuesday evening, but decided nothing. Its red flag floats all over Paris, and one of its organs says that now, after the poetry of triumph, must come the prose of work. The Commune, however, is not content with municipal sovereignty. It claims national authority. It takes into its own hands the *Journal Officiel*, and announces that all the clerks of the War Office, including the Military Intendence, must instantly return to their posts in Paris, or their places will be filled by others. The chief difficulty of the Commune at present is money. Its army of National Guards costs 300,000fr. per day; whereas the whole French army formerly cost only 1,000,000fr. a day. It has no funds, and it worries the inhabitants with requisitions. At one of Duval's establishments, on Tuesday, one hundred National Guards marched in and demanded dinner. The dinner was provided, and the proprietor had to be satisfied with a promise to pay. It is the same all over Paris with all kinds of necessities. The new Government has already incurred obligations to the extent of 3,000,000fr., and is in sore need of more.

At the sitting of the Sub-Committee, on Wednesday, General Duval proposed that all the National Guards not giving in their adhesion to the Committee should be disarmed and receive no more pay. The National Guards who supported the Committee should be the sole guardians of the city. Assy thought that the Republic established upon public security ran no danger. Nevertheless, he said, all who should wish to attack the Republic should at once be shot.

Laws against suspected persons continue to be enforced. It is announced that in the 18th Arrondissement (Montmartre) four commissionaires have been appointed to receive denunciations of persons suspected to be in league with the Government of Versailles.

The Central Committee burnt not only the papers of the police office incriminating themselves, but all other papers of every kind, including those against thieves and other known criminals.

The Commune feels strong enough to let the *Figaro* appear again. This journal, however, speaks with bated breath, does not dare to express an opinion, and confines its task to the chronicle of facts. A favourable impression has been produced in Paris by the readiness with which the Central Committee has punished its own supporters for their transgressions. This severity is not regarded as a sign of weakness or of internal division, but, on the contrary, as evidence of vitality and steadfast purpose.

The Commune, in the name of public health, requisitions warm baths for the National Guards. The Prudhonian school of Socialism comes out more and more in the official wall literature. The Commune is preparing an inventory of the Bonapartist property acquired through Imperial favour, and the proceeds thereof are to be applied towards paying the Parisian share of the war indemnity.

The *Cloche* says that Menotti and Ricciotti Garibaldi have refused to interfere in any way with the internal dissensions of France, being resolved only to draw the sword against the foreign enemies of the French Republic. M. Lullier, the ex-naval lieutenant who was recently appointed commander of the insurgent National Guards in Paris, has been dismissed from that post; he was suspected of holding communications with Versailles, and had thrown "a chair at the head of a member of the Committee during a very warm discussion." M. Lullier is now in prison, and is alleged to be raving mad.

M. Rampont, the Director of the Post Office, has formally refused to cede his place to the new director appointed by the Committee. M. Rampont declares that if he is forced to quit his office the mail-vans will be sent on to Versailles instead of to Paris, thus depriving the capital of all communication with the departments. The Committee has appointed successors to the presidents of the faculties of medicine and law.

Considerable excitement was caused in the Faubourg St. Antoine, on Sunday night, by the false announcement that the Duc d'Aumale had been appointed Lieutenant-General of the "Kingdom." The electors of the Bastille district, who were going armed to the poll, at once exclaimed that they had been betrayed, and raised the cry of "Death to the Orleansists!" A delegate of the Commune opportunely came up and declared that the news was untrue, and the incident had no further result.

The *Journal Officiel* has published an article by M. Vaillant, the Delegate of the Committee for the Home Department, in which that gentleman states his surprise at the Duc d'Aumale having found it possible to enter France without meeting with a citizen to kill him. M. Vaillant adds that such facts prove how much

moral and civil sentiment has deteriorated. In ancient republics such was the law; now an affectation of morality would call this act of justice an assassination. He concludes by saying that society owes to princes but one duty—death; society is bound but to one formality—the verification of identity.

An account of the massacre on Wednesday week has at length been published by the insurgents. They maintain that the friends of order were the instigators of the disturbances, and that it was from their ranks that the first shots came. They add that General Sheridan certifies that shots were fired by the persons forming the demonstration. All this, however, is emphatically denied.

A statement of the objects of the Revolutionists has been published in the form of an address from "The Republican Federation of the National Guard to our Adversaries." It is as follows:—

Citizens.—The cause of our divisions rests upon a misinterpretation. Acting as loyal adversaries should do, we wish to clear this up, and we will first state our legitimate complaint. The Government, as at present composed, is an object of suspicion to the Democrats. We have accepted it, reserving to ourselves the right of preventing the betrayal of the Republic. After they had betrayed Paris, we have made a revolution. It was a sacred duty. We will prove it. What did we ask? The preservation of the Republic, as being the only government possible, and that cannot be discussed—the right of Paris to have a Municipal Council—the suppression of the Prefecture of Police, as demanded by M. de Kératry—the suppression of the permanent army, and the right of your National Guard alone to maintain order—our right to elect all our chiefs—the reorganisation of the National Guard on a certain basis that would afford guarantees to the people. What was the reply to these legitimate demands? The Government re-established the state of siege that was gradually disappearing of itself, appointed General Vinoy Commander-in-Chief, and General Vinoy assumed his command with a threatening attitude. Moreover, the Government interfered with public liberty, suppressed six newspapers, appointed to the command of the National Guard a General disliked by the people, and whose mission it was to place it under iron discipline and to reorganise it on the old anti-democratic basis. At the Prefecture we had a "gendarme" in the person of General Valentin, an ex-Colonel of gendarmerie. The Assembly did not fear offending Paris—Paris that had just shown her heroism. We wished to preserve until our reorganisation the cannons paid for by us, which we had kept away from the Prussians. The Assembly tried to seize them from us by a night attack, and when its supporters had arms in their hands they would grant us nothing. But it was necessary that we should obtain our rights, and we rose peacefully, but in a body. To-day we are told that the Assembly, in a state of fear, wishes to allow us to hold, at some time not fixed, communal elections, as well as the right of electing our chiefs, and that we have, therefore, no excuse for prolonging our resistance. The plea is bad. We have been deceived too often not to fear that we shall be again deluded—not to fear lest the left hand should retake what the right hand has given—lest the people should once more be put on one side, and deception and treason again be victorious. See what the Government has already done! Through M. Jules Favre the Assembly has just made the most ignominious call for civil war, to have Paris destroyed by the provinces; and he calumniate us most unwarrantably. Citizens, our cause is just; our cause is yours. Therefore join us to see it triumphant. Take no heed of a few paid men who are seeking to spread division in our ranks; and, lastly, should you hold different opinions, come to the poll and protest by your blank tickets, as is the duty of all good citizens. To abstain from voting is not proving that you are in the right; it is only making a shift with your consciences, and assuming as votes of abstention those of citizens who are indifferent, lazy, or without any political faith. Honest men repudiate such compromises.

THE GOVERNMENT AND ASSEMBLY AT VERSAILLES.

The *Moniteur*, the semi-official organ of the Government at Versailles, denies, on authority, that there is any chance of a change in the Ministry, the responsibility of which before the Assembly and the country is collective. It also denies that there is any chance of the Government transferring its seat to Fontainebleau. It is only the Military Intendence which is to make Fontainebleau one of its centres.

Versailles is becoming a military camp. The provincial National Guards are arriving from all parts. Many marines and squadrons of cavalry of the Line have also arrived from the provinces. Nothing is known yet as regards the intentions of the Government with regard to Paris. The members of the Right insist on the removal of General Le Flo as Minister of War, but M. Thiers is absolutely opposed to that demand. It is asserted that the Central Committee, before releasing General Chanzy, imposed on him the condition not to carry arms, and not to accept any post before the expiration of six months, except in case of war against a foreign enemy. The Government has received satisfactory news from the provinces. Order has been re-established at Toulouse, Lyons, Marseilles, and St. Etienne, in each of which the Commune had been proclaimed. Marseilles, however, has been declared in a state of siege. Hopes are still entertained of an amicable arrangement between Versailles and Paris.

In the Assembly on Monday a resolution, signed by eighty members, was brought forward, to the effect that the Paris elections should be declared null and void. This motion was welcomed with loud cheers. When, however, it was proposed that the subject should be at once discussed as urgent, the majority drew back and refused to take the matter into immediate consideration. At the same sitting M. Thiers once again announced, in very emphatic language, that he did not desire to overthrow the Republic. "I found the Republic an accomplished fact," he said, "and before God and man I declare that I will not betray it, and that those who say the contrary speak falsely." M. de Lasteyrie said that the Assembly had but one object—the good of the country. They did not wish to oppose conciliation; but, if pillage and assassination were to prevail, action would be necessary. On Tuesday a member of the extreme Right read from the *Journal Officiel* of Paris the article in favour of assassination, and then addressed the members of the Left in terms which seemed to imply that they countenanced the views enunciated in that article. A very stormy scene followed. Several members rose simultaneously to speak, and two actually spoke together from the tribune, without either being heard. The offending member was at length allowed to explain that his meaning had been misinterpreted. Some of his remarks, however, gave fresh cause of offence, and another stormy scene occurred. M. Floquet, alluding to the members of the Right, said they were fools; and, when called to order, declared that he knew the value of words, and would not shrink from those which he had used. The conduct of the Right indicated, he maintained, aberration of mind.

On Wednesday M. Brunet moved for a Committee of nine to inquire into the irregularities of the Prussian evacuation. He asked whether 80,000 Prussians at Chagny were not the advanced posts of a large army. M. Thiers replied that the Committee would be useless, because the Government admitted the irregularities hitherto, but had concluded a convention to remedy them. The miserable Paris disorders were the cause of delay. M. Dufaure presented a bill for the trial by jury of press offences. The debate has commenced on the elections to the Council-General. M. Picard said that they must not take place until after the municipal elections.

MISCELLANEOUS FRENCH NEWS.

A law regarding the payment of arrears of rent, proposed in the Assembly on Tuesday, is considered insufficient. Tenants who are in debt will not be content with a delay of two years. They want to get rid, in whole or in part, of the obligation to pay. Right or wrong, it is certain that the Empire would have granted considerable remissions to the smaller tenants. The poorer classes of Paris have been accustomed to these gratuities at the expense of the rich, and expect them.

Official intelligence has been received at Versailles of the murder of the Prefect of the Loire, and the Assembly has passed a motion in honour of the deceased. The Prefect (or the Mayor) of St. Etienne has also been murdered.

The Legitimist deputies have organised meetings at the Hôtel des Réservoirs, and in their last sittings have passed important resolutions. It is stated that a fusion has been accomplished, and that there is now only one Bourbon family, of which the Count de Chambord is the chief. The heads of the party are engaged in drawing up a Constitution of a very liberal character, with a Parliamentary régime on the model of the English Constitution. The Government looks upon these dispositions with regret. The Orleansist deputies remain opposed to this fusion.

It is said that the Prussians are concentrating in considerable force at the Isle d'Adam, Anvers, Pontoise, and the neighbourhood, and that they intend garrisoning those places until the end of the disturbances in Paris.

Advices from Algeria state that the insurrectionary movement there among the natives is becoming very serious. A chief in the receipt of a Government allowance has returned the last payment, stating that he refuses to have anything more to do with France, and makes war upon her. He is now said to have 40,000 men under his orders. Upwards of sixty miles of telegraph wires have been cut by the insurgents, and the French posts in the south are surrounded.

BELGIUM.

The first meeting of the Peace Conference took place, on Tuesday, at Brussels. The proceedings were merely formal.

SPAIN.

Advices from Madrid announce Republican and Carlist risings in several parts of Spain. They were, it appears, of not much importance, and were easily suppressed.

Two frigates have arrived at Tangiers, having on board an Envoy from Spain, with instructions to present certain claims on behalf of the Spanish Government, and to ask for satisfaction.

GERMANY.

It is stated on reliable authority that it has been decided to introduce a bill into the German Parliament in reference to the future position of the newly-acquired territory. It will be proposed that Alsace and Lorraine shall be recognised as absolute portions of the German Empire under the Government of Prussia; and that on and after Jan. 1, 1873, the German Constitution shall come into force in those territories. Until that time the administration of the provinces shall be carried on by the Emperor, with the co-operation of the Federal Council. No mention will be made of any portion of Alsace being handed over to Bavaria in the bill.

RUSSIA.

The Patriarch at Constantinople has complained to the Russian Synod of the opposition offered by the Porte to his views in reference to the summoning of a Council, and has asked the Synod if he has acted rightly against the Turkish Government, which has disturbed the order of the Church in Bulgaria. The Russian Synod in its reply avows that it shares the dissatisfaction of the Patriarch of Constantinople at the determination of the Porte to settle the ecclesiastical question of Bulgaria by a firman. The Synod, however, thinks the convocation of a council unnecessary, and calculated to create misunderstanding.

ROUMANIA.

Prince Charles has issued a decree dissolving the Roumanian Chambers, and the Ministry has tendered its resignation.

THE UNITED STATES.

The Senate has taken no action on the bill passed by the House abolishing the duties on salt and coal, which accordingly drops. The President has sent a message to Congress declaring life and property to be insecure in some of the Southern States, and urging it to pass measures to remedy the evil.

Mr. Sumner has made a speech in the Senate in which he severely criticised the course taken by the President with regard to San Domingo, in having authorised the use of a federal naval force to sustain the Government of President Baez against foreign or domestic foes. Mr. Sumner cited official documents to prove that the Administration, in violation of all international law, and in utter disregard of the rights of Hayti, had instructed Admiral Pook to destroy any Haytian vessel attacking San Domingo. Mr. Sumner declared that the President had usurped unlawful prerogatives in this belligerent intervention without the consent of Congress, and that he had furthermore unwarrantably and without precedent made a personal appeal to the senators, and abused the appointing power in order to secure the consummation of his San Domingo scheme. Mr. Sumner declared, in conclusion, that the case is a grave one, and justifies Congressional inquiry and action. Mr. Sumner's speech has created a marked impression. The press generally comment favourably upon it. The majority of the Republican and all the Democratic journals condemn the President's course towards Mr. Sumner and the San Domingo scheme.

A despatch from Chicago, dated March 14, states that advices had been received there from Pembina to Feb. 28. They represent that another outbreak had occurred on the Reserve, which promised to be of a very serious character. The first battalion of the Canadian Rifle Volunteers were in open revolt, and held at defiance both their officers and the civil authorities.

THE CATTLE PLAGUE IN FRANCE.—M. Bouley, a member of the French Academy, has deeply studied the nature and origin of the cattle plague, and brings forward several curious facts bearing on the subject. Each time, he says, that France has been invaded by foreign armies coming from the East the cattle plague has followed in their train. This disease is permanent in that part of Europe comprised between the Carpathian and the Oural mountains. The Prussian army had scarcely crossed the French frontier when the infection made its way with them into Alsace and Lorraine, whence it soon spread into the neighbouring provinces. With a view to revictualing Paris, the Delegation of Tours had assembled 3000 oxen in the neighbourhood of Orleans, which were infected immediately after the arrival of the Prussians. Following the army of General Chanzy, part of this herd scattered contagion in Poitou, Touraine, Maine, Mayenne, and as far as the beach of Le Concarneau, in Brittany, where hundreds of oxen had to be slaughtered and thrown into the sea. M. Bouley affirms that in these regions the cattle plague never originates on the spot under the influence of accidents of climate or in consequence of want of care. He gives a proof of this which seems to admit of no reply. The flocks and herds shut up in Paris at the beginning of the siege, to the number of 40,000 oxen and 220,000 sheep, were parked under the worst conditions, yet none of them were seized with the disease. It was only after the armistice that the contagion showed itself, and that with desolating rapidity. As soon as the revictualing period began, the purchase of a few German oxen was sufficient to produce an outbreak of the pest, of the imminence of which there were no previous signs. Herds of 700 head were suddenly invaded, and the number of animals killed by the plague, or slaughtered as soon as attacked, exceeds 6000 in number. M. Bouley considers the cattle-plague curable by means of phenic acid, and concurs with several of his colleagues in considering that the animals slaughtered when suffering from the disease may be safely used as food.

THE IRISH REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S REPORT.—The Registrar-General's report on the last quarter of the year 1870 states that the cold weather caused great mortality among the young and the aged in Ireland. Several deaths at upwards of a hundred years of age were registered. A Castleblaney registrar records the death of an old Waterloo man at 103, and "his wily spouse" at 100; and the registrar of Celbridge the death of a labourer, a native of Mayo, retaining his mental faculties to the last, at 106; who was in Celbridge workhouse for his last four years, a man "remarkable for his extreme good temper." A military pensioner died in the Castleblaney Union at (as stated) the age of 116; he said he served at Bunker's hill as a drummer; he was in possession of all his faculties until within a few weeks of his death, and was not confined to bed until the cold weather set in. The Registrar-General has to state that scarlet fever prevailed in Ireland in the last quarter of 1870, and ten registrars report the presence of smallpox. But he observes that the provisions of the Compulsory Vaccination Act are being zealously carried into operation throughout the country, and with the most beneficial results. He states that the reports of the sanitary condition of the various districts show an improvement as compared with former years. The Clifden registrar reports a great deal of fever—nearly all brought from Scotland; and states also that there have been many cases of phthisis, almost every one occurring in labourers returning from Scotland in an advanced stage of pulmonary disease. In the year 1870 there were 150,151 births registered in Ireland, and 59,655 deaths, showing a natural increase of population amounting to 90,496; but 74,855 emigrants left the ports of Ireland in the year, and this changes the increase of population into a decrease of 16,359. But, in truth, the registration of births and deaths in Ireland is very imperfect, and the registration of marriages is still more so. One of the registrars observed in his report that births and deaths occur which are not registered unless he accidentally hears of them, and requires that they be registered; and if a birth is not registered the parents never bring the child for vaccination, for fear of being fined for non-registration. The system adopted is defective. The meteorological report from the Ordnance Survey Office, Phoenix Park, Dublin, shows that the mean temperature of 1870, the mean of the monthly averages, was 49.3 deg.; on Dec. 30 the thermometer was as low as 11 deg. The rainfall of the first eleven months was 19.66 in.; in December the rain-gauge was out of order.

IN THE LIONS' DEN.

PARIS, Monday, March 27.

I WAS invited, the other day, to dine with the Commander at the Place Vendôme, and went at six. I should explain that this officer is the Commander of the National Guard for Paris, appointed by the committee at the Hôtel de Ville; and his headquarters are in the large public building which forms the east face of the Place Vendôme. I was received in a large room on the ground floor, with windows looking out upon the square. The General was absent at the moment, but his Chief of the Staff did the honours, and I was soon at my ease, with leisure to survey the extemporised official world about me. Naturally, my curiosity was most turned to the men coming and going with quiet activity—the officers and leaders of the movement. Sinister-looking fellows were many of the men I saw; but it was twilight, and the gloom of the hour may have lent a shadow to faces fair and frank enough in the daylight. The only notable point in the furniture of the room was a large and beautiful bust of Liberty, before a mirror between the two windows. Thus there were two Liberties—a substance and a shadow; and I could not but wonder which would prove the type of that my friends were struggling for. All the men I saw were workmen—men of mechanical occupations; and it is a boast and pride of the leaders that they are all from the ranks of the working-day world. The Chief of the Staff was evidently of Wat Tyler's trade—a man of sturdy lineaments, who had been developed by bodily labour rather than intellectual exercise—an honest, straightforward, earnest sort of man, failing in no fair element of manhood but the refining touch of study.

While I waited a scout came to report that the authorities—the "Reactionists," as they were called—were making preparations to defend the Bank. He was sent in to report to the General's secretary. Presently arrived a report of quite another character—that the men at one of the barricades were in a state of mutiny. They had been on duty all day, with nothing to eat; and now that it was dark they wanted to go home. "Cannot the officer keep them till he is relieved?" "The Captain is as bad as the men, and is going too." "Send that Captain to me," and the messenger was off on the instant. An inquiry came next from two National Guards, who wanted to know where and how they should get good tobacco. "Send them up;" and in a few minutes the two tobacco-hunters entered. They had come from the country, and had been in Paris three or four days, on duty most of the time, out of money, and without tobacco. What should they do? "Well, my brave men, I do not know whether the Government undertakes to furnish tobacco or not; I don't think it does; but I will send you to the Quartermaster's department, and you can see. If it does not, you of course will know how to undergo the privation for a few days, when you remember what it is for. If we succeed now, we establish the Republic for ever, and there will be no more wars, no more fighting, no more suffering." The men said they were willing to undergo anything, and intended to fight to the last breath if necessary; but that if there was any tobacco to be had they would like to have some all the same; and they went in search of the Quartermaster. It was now seven o'clock. The lamps were lit; and still the General had not come. Several despatches had been received, requiring immediate answers, which the Chief of the Staff did not wish to take the responsibility of sending. He showed me one from some General—I could not make out the name—who said he was about to make an attack upon the Mairie of the second Arrondissement, and wished to know if General Bergeret approved it, and if his assistance could be counted upon in case of need. He would wait an answer on the Pont Royal. More of the men in the barricades were reported to be in a state of mutiny or discontent. They were being cut off on the east side by the Reactionists, who had placed patrols in all the streets in that direction, allowing no one to pass. The Chief of the Staff and the General's secretary were getting excited, and were on the point of taking some decisive step, when General Bergeret arrived, and commenced signing despatches and sending off messengers in a way that looked like business.

I was now conducted into another room, where there were three or four officers, one sitting at a table, with his head leaning upon his hand; the others stood round, all silent. I did not observe anything particular in their appearance at first, but after a few moments I came to the conclusion that the man at the table was a prisoner. My surmise proved to be correct. In about half an hour the General came in, followed by several officers, and formed a ring about the captive, who wore the uniform of a Captain of the National Guards. The General was sorry to trouble him—had no doubt he could prove himself innocent—but several persons had reported him to be a friend of D'Aurelle de Paladines, and a spy. The Captain seemed considerably astonished and somewhat embarrassed, and said he did not know how anyone could have imagined such a thing, his battalion being under the General's own command, and obeying his orders promptly. "Nevertheless," said the General, "I have never seen you before; I do not know you; and I would like you to show me a simple word or line from the Central Committee." The Captain said he could not; but if they would send him under guard to one or two men whom he named, and who were known to the General, they would identify him. "Why did you come here to get the countersign?" asked the General. "I was going home, and thought it might keep me out of difficulty in case I was stopped." "I think it very strange," said the General, "that an officer should come here to get the countersign without being known, and with no paper about him to prove his identity. See if you have no paper, a line, a word, anything for this purpose." The Captain looked, but could only show his commission, issued some months ago, showing that he was a Captain of the 156th Battalion of the National Guards, which did not in the least tend to allay the suspicions that were gathering round him. The General said that he would send a letter to the men of whom the prisoner had spoken, and asked if he had any objection to waiting for an answer. He said he had, and asked if they could not send him under guard to his own house, where papers would be found proving his innocence. The reason, he said, why he had been suspected was probably that he had written a book, which he had dedicated to D'Aurelle de Paladines. "I know it," said the General; "there it is!"—pointing to a pamphlet of about 200 pages lying on the table, entitled "La Famille, from the Earliest Ages down to the Present Time," by Ch. Mousny. Dedicated to D'Aurelle de Paladines. "Everybody examined the book in question. I looked through it; but there was nothing treasonable in it, so far as I could see, as it did not treat of politics at all. The dedication showed the author, however, to have had some connection with D'Aurelle. He made some explanation about the book which was not at all accepted by anybody present; and the General said, 'Well, Captain, I am very sorry to detain you; but my duty will compel me to keep you here until I get an answer from the men of whom you speak. If you are innocent I will apologise to you personally for the wrong done you; I will take you to all the officers under my command, and introduce you as a good Republican and a brother, and will be glad to call you friend. If you are guilty, you will be shot in twenty-four hours. In the mean time, will you accept the dinner I shall offer you?' The Captain bowed his submission, and we adjourned to the dinner-table, leaving him under guard.

The table was set for eighteen persons, lighted with two large lamps and a chandelier, and garnished at one end with an immense roast, at the other with four or five fat stuffed fowls. We sat down, and for the first time I had an opportunity of observing closely, under a strong light, the faces of the men by whom I was surrounded. Workmen—mechanics—every one of them. I was astonished beyond measure. Can these be the men, I asked myself, who have overthrown the Government of France—who boldly defy Thiers, Favre, Trochu, Chanzy, and all the supposed strong men of France—who have grasped the reins of government, have assumed the authority, and, without hesitation or halting, march right to

their end in the teeth of power? There can be no mistake whatever about the matter. These are the men who hold a city like Paris in subjection, and before whom the National Assembly is trembling—an Assembly composed of the most intelligent men of France, of the greatest orators, poets, statesmen, and historians of the age—a dozen mechanics, with grizzled beards, browned faces, and horny hands! They all sat down quietly, most of them awkwardly. Few words were exchanged, and they seemed overcome with fatigue, some of them dropping asleep before the meal was over. I soon engaged in conversation with the General, who informed me that they were all honest, hard-working men; but they had devotedly given their leisure moments to reading and study, and, seeing how often they had been deceived by the great men in whom they had confided, had determined to take their affairs in their own hands, resolutely making up their minds to die, if necessary, for the Republic. For the present, he said, they had no decided programme, further than holding the elections and forming a Government founded upon universal suffrage.

"But the Assembly has sprung from universal suffrage, has it not?" I asked. "Yes," he replied; "but it was elected only to vote peace, and its mandate has expired." "But if the elections go against you, and the peasants vote a Monarchy?" I inquired. "The peasants always vote with the strongest side; they always vote with the Government, whatever that may happen to be. If we have the government in our hands, they will vote with us." "You are for the 'Commune,' I suppose? Do you understand by that a general distribution of property?" "No, Sir; we only understand the abolition of all privileges, and a modification of the present social system. What this modification may be we do not yet know; we have not yet had time to study it out, and it will take years to accomplish that task. But some change must and will take place. Workmen and peasants are despised in France and all over Europe. This should not be. Perhaps they are ignorant and unrefined, as the world goes. But is it their fault? Would they not be educated if they could? Is it not the interest and intention of our opponents to keep us ignorant? Have they not done so for hundreds of years? What have a thousand years of monarchy done to educate us? Nothing. They keep us ignorant, and then reproach us with it. Whence comes the greatest opposition to the present movement? From the aristocratic portion of society, who object to us simply and solely because we are workmen." "What is your opinion of Gambetta, Hugo, and Louis Blanc?" "They are great men and patriots, and we look for them to join us as soon as they can. Hugo is old now, however, and we need young men; and Gambetta is ill." "Have you opened negotiations with the Prussians?" "Yes, Sir; and we shall have no difficulty in arranging matters with them. They are indifferent as to our form of government, so long as we adhere to the terms of the peace already signed; and that we will do. Besides, we have nothing against the German people. They could not easily help it. It is only Governments and Kings we are fighting. The people will be with us everywhere." During the evening one of the officers spoke of some one, whose name I do not remember, as a good man to accept. "What are his political opinions?" asked General Bergeret. "He is rather a neutral," was the reply. "Therefore a dangerous man," said the General. "In such times as these we must have men of positive opinions—men who are not blown about by every wind of doctrine."

General Bergeret is a small man, with large dark eyes, a thin face, and nervous temperament—evidently a man who decides and acts quickly. While the dinner was going on, one of the men who had been detailed to keep guard over the man suspected of being a spy came in and gave the General a letter which the prisoner had written to his fiancée, and directed to be sent to her in all haste, as she was awaiting him for dinner. The General opened it, and found it to commence with "Mon cher Monsieur," which caused a general laugh. It was simply written to a friend telling him that the writer was in trouble, and asking for help. Soon after came a letter from the man who was to have proved his innocence. This letter stated that the writer knew the Captain in question, but that he was not under the command of the Central Committee, and that he had no business to go about asking the countersign. This decided the matter, and he was immediately hustled off to the Hôtel de Ville to be tried by court-martial. Soon afterwards it was announced that the troops at Versailles had revolted and driven off the Assembly—which proved to be a false report. But, just as we were getting up from table, a messenger came in with the announcement that the Reactionists were concentrating for an attack, which caused considerable excitement. "Let them try it," said General Bergeret; "let them try it, and they will hear from us in a way that they don't expect. The guns of Montmartre are pointed upon the Place de l'Opéra and the Boulevards. Let them come!"

I took an opportunity to ask them about the death of Generals Clément Thomas and Lecomte. General Bergeret said that no one regretted these unlawful, barbarous acts more than himself; that it was their intention not to let it be said this revolution was characterised by murder, pillage, and disorder; but that, in his absence from Montmartre—he was then in direct command—some of the soldiers of the Line had seized these men, and shot them without even the semblance of a regular trial. In case he could find the ringleaders, he would most assuredly have them shot; but, in the mean time, he only wanted people to have a little patience and forbearance. "The men," he said, "who are loudest in denouncing these things as the fault of the Republic are the very men who applauded the slaughters of the *coup-d'état*, and who had not a word to say for the twelve hundred victims who fell then, shot down in the streets in cold blood. The men who murdered Thomas and Lecomte will at least not be rewarded with offices and honours."—*Correspondent of the "Telegraph."*

WRECK ON THE GOODWIN SANDS.—At daybreak on the 28th ult., during a strong north-westerly wind, and in a heavy sea, a large barque was seen ashore on the Goodwin Sands, with a signal of distress flying. The Ramsgate life-boat, Bradford, and the harbour steam-tug were at once dispatched to the spot, and, on arriving there, found the Broadstairs life-boat of the National Life-Boat Institution had just got out. Both boats then went alongside the barque, which proved to be the *Idun*, of Bergen, 500 tons, bound from Newcastle to Venice, with coals. The crew of fourteen men, together with the son and daughter of the master, were then taken into the life-boats; but, on returning to shore, the boats unfortunately grounded on the sands, where they had to remain three hours, until the flood-tide made, when they were taken in tow by the steamer, and brought safely into Ramsgate harbour.

A PROTESTANT VIEW OF THE "HOME-RULE" MOVEMENT.—Some attention has been attracted in Ireland by a pamphlet in favour of "Home Government," by the Rev. C. Seymour Langley, D.D., Vicar of Kilworth, in the diocese of Cloyne. Mr. Langley contends that the relations of Protestant Irishmen to England have changed. Their "persistent loyalty" and "enduring obedience" are, he says, a "dream dispelled." The question he discusses is the following:—"Is it not possible for the Protestants of Ireland to come to a better understanding, and to make as good, or even better, terms with their Roman Catholic fellow-countrymen by dealing with them directly, rather than through the intervention of the English Parliament, which is distasteful to both?" Mr. Langley is convinced that the Church and Land questions would have been discussed and decided on better principles in an Irish House of Commons. In order, however, to a union of Irishmen, he says, "Let the Roman Catholics of Ireland cease to depend upon Italian principles and refuse to be enslaved by Italian rule." He states the views of the advocates of home rule thus:—"We are quite content to be a sister country, to be ruled by the same Sovereign, and that the Sovereign should exercise the same power in Ireland as she does in England. We are also ready to bear our full proportion of the national expenditure, provided that a proportionate share of it is expended in Ireland. In short, all we demand is the power of legislating for ourselves, subject to such executive control as hereafter shall be agreed upon." Finally, Mr. Langley writes:—"Before many years shall have passed, we shall, I believe, see a National Parliament sitting in the old Parliament House in College Green, and a real, not a mock, Court held in Dublin Castle. We shall have the nobility and gentry of Ireland occupying their mansions in Dublin, as they used to do in the times before the Union. Trade will revive and flourish. All the attractions that now draw away our upper classes to London society will be found and enjoyed at home. Then the wealth now spent out of Ireland will revert to its legitimate channel; absenteeism will be the exception, not the rule."

SKETCHES OF THE LATE WAR.

A GERMAN FIELD POST.

THE field post played a prominent part in the late war, and, like everything else German, was carefully organised. There were delays and occasional irregularities, of course; but, on the whole, the institution worked well. In a German, and especially in a Prussian army, the post is, perhaps, of more importance than in most others. All the soldiers can write—thanks to the system of education established in the Fatherland—and their home-loving character and the domestic ties by which all are more or less bound, make them eager to use the faculty. After a battle, particularly, the post is in great request; for every one who survives is anxious to communicate the pleasing fact to relatives and friends at home—and not a few have last messages from fallen comrades to send. On these occasions, consequently, the officers of the "feldpost" have their hands full of work. An official, furnished with bags and bugle, rides over the field and through the men's quarters, all who have letters handing them to him as he passes along. His rounds completed, he repairs to what may be termed the post-office, generally an improvised table in the open air, surrounded by vans to take off the bags, and here the missives are roughly sorted and "mailed," to use an Americanism. The whole of the letters posted up to a given hour being collected, the vans are dispatched to the nearest station on a railway or some other central position, whence the mails and the letters find their way to their destination in due course.

FRANCE SIGNING THE PRELIMINARIES OF PEACE.

In this scene our artist—a Frenchman, as may readily be guessed—has produced an allegorical representation of the sad incident which his country has just witnessed. Poor France, worn and dishevelled, is constrained at dagger's point to sign as the Emperor-King, Moltke, and Bismarck dictate, while violence and even murder are being perpetrated by Prussian Uhlans and other "barbarians" around her. A terrible strait, indeed, is that to which France is reduced; but she brought it on herself by provoking the war, and it is to be hoped that her folly may not entail a worse fate at the hands of her own children than even that she endured at those of the hated Germans.



M. GREVY, PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

THE LAST OF BOURBAKI'S ARMY CROSSING THE SWISS FRONTIER.

We have in previous Numbers published illustrations and descriptions of the disarming of General Bourbaki's troops as they crossed the Swiss frontier. Our present Engraving represents the final scene, when the last of the French soldiers passed over

President we publish a portrait, eminently characteristic of all that has been told of the man himself.

M. Grévy was born at Mont-Sous-Vaudrey (Jura), so that he is a native of Franche Comte, a district which has given the world many able men, of whom we may mention, in our own generation, Victor Hugo, Proudhon, and Montalembert. He was born in 1807, when the positions of France and Prussia

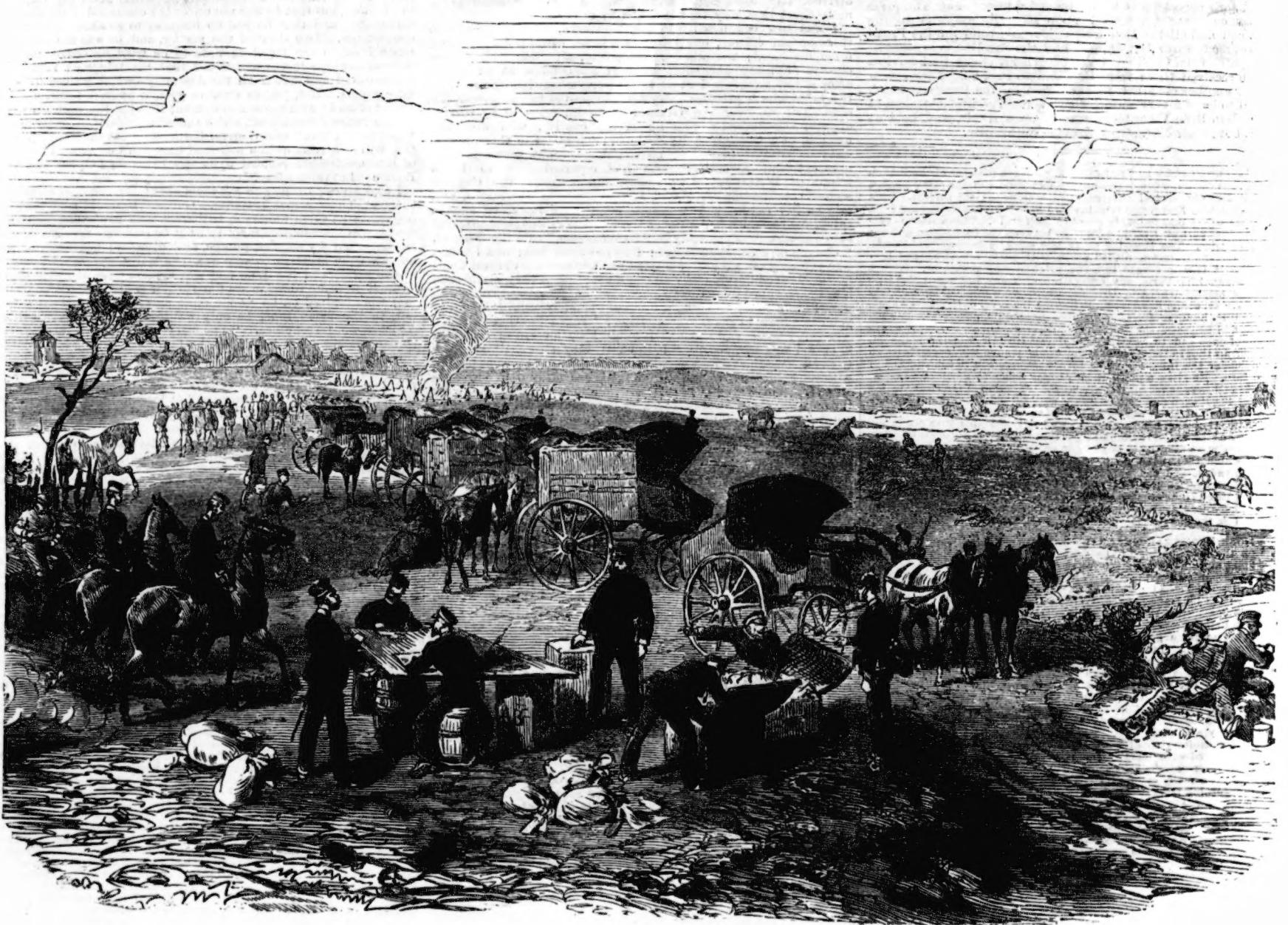
at Forts Joux and Larmont, near La Cluse. General Clinchamp, who had succeeded to the command of Bourbaki's forces before they took refuge in Switzerland, and was, of course, interned along with his men, left Berne on the 22nd ult., to return to France, leaving a letter for the President of the Confederation, expressing his feelings of gratitude for the reception which himself and the army he commanded had experienced in Switzerland.

VERSAILLES DURING THE GERMAN OCCUPATION.

The scene depicted in our Engraving might have been witnessed any day in the Avenue de Paris, the principal street in Versailles, while the Germans were there; but our artist has chosen a time for his sketch immediately after the conclusion of the armistice, when the restrictions upon the presence of the populace were a little relaxed, but not the rigid discipline and continuous drill of the soldiers of Fatherland. At all hours of the day these stalwart warriors were diligently "put through their facings" in presence of assembled crowds, who, while they hated, could not but admire the thews and sinews, and the free, swinging step, of the men who had wellnigh marched from end to end of France, winning victory after victory as they passed.

M. GREVY.

DURING the present extraordinary position of the Government of France, and the doubt which hangs over the issue of events, the members of the National Assembly may be regarded as marked men, in more than one sense. Whether they ultimately triumph, or are compelled by the spread of the insurrection to resign their functions and to escape from the duties to which they have been called, they will have filled a strange place in history, and the name of their President will be remembered. Of that



A GERMAN FIELD-POST AFTER A BATTLE.



"FRANCE SIGNING THE PRELIMINARIES OF PEACE."

(after Jena) were the very reverse of what they now are. M. Grévy has always belonged to the Republican party. In a manifesto, published in 1869, he declared:—"I have not now to make a new profession of faith; I have made it often enough, and now I repeat it. I have always been, I still am, and I shall die, a Republican." After having completed his studies at Poligny, he commenced his career in Paris, where he soon attracted attention by his energy. His high honour, his sincerity, and his capacity, as well as the success he achieved at the Bar, brought him the honour of being *batonnier* of the order of Advocates in 1868, and he continues to command the same high respect. He was one of the men who foresaw the probable results of the Revolution of 1848, and urgently demanded that the President of the Republic should be nominated by the representatives of the country. In 1869 he presented himself to the electors of Jura with the well-earned reputation of an orator and a faithful politician. He then belonged to the "Left," or Opposition; and now he has been chosen as the President of the entire Assembly—an honour which indorses his high character and great ability.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 396.

ENGLAND HAS NO STANDING ARMY.

ENGLAND has no standing Army. Our Army is annually voted by the House of Commons. On Thursday the 23rd, the House, in Committee, passed the following vote—"That a number of land forces not exceeding 135,047, &c., be maintained for the service of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, from the 1st day of April, 1871, to the 31st day of March, 1872, inclusive." This vote constituted the Army for the coming year, and if this vote had not been passed there would have been no Army during the coming year. But this was not all that the Committee had to do. It had, of course, to vote money to pay this Army, and this it did in the form following, immediately after it had voted the men, to wit—"That a sum not exceeding £5,397,170 be granted to her Majesty to defray the charge of pay and allowances, and other charges, &c., from the 1st day of April, 1871, to the 31st day of March, 1872, inclusive." On Friday, the 24th, the Committee reported what it had done to the House, and the House "agreed to the resolution of the said Committee," and thus the Army was formally re-constituted, and money provided to pay it. But something else is still required to make the Army effective. There must be a Mutiny Act, &c., a law to govern the Army. And on Friday Mr. Dodson, the Chairman of Ways and Means, brought in this bill. It is intitled "a bill to punish mutiny and desertion," &c. This Mutiny Act does not, as some have said, constitute the Army. The Army is constituted by the above-mentioned votes. But, clearly, the Army could not be held together without the Mutiny Act; for, if there were no Mutiny Act, officers and men deserting their colours in time of peace could only be tried for breach of contract, and in time of war for felony—provisions, these, obviously insufficient. By the Mutiny Act deserters, whether in time of peace or time of war, may be shot. Our readers will, then, see that English Sovereigns have no standing Army. The Army, in fact, though called "the Queen's Army," is granted to her Majesty by the House of Commons, and only for a year. If the House were to refuse to vote the men or the money, her Majesty would for the ensuing year have no Army; and if it were to vote men and money, and were to refuse or neglect to pass a Mutiny Act, the Army would be of little use to her aforesaid Majesty.

THE GERMAN PARLIAMENT.

The English House of Commons is the only constitutional assembly in Europe which has so much power. The German Diet claims this power, but has not yet got it. Several times during the last ten years the Diet has "refused the supplies," but without avail. The Sovereign declined to acknowledge this right, and proceeded to tax the people without the Diet's consent. In the German Parliamentary contests, the Liberal orators used frequently to refer to the power of voting or withholding supplies which the English Parliament possesses; and on one of these occasions Bismarck thus replied:—"The Prussian Crown must not be forced into the powerless position of the English Crown, which appears more like an elegant ornament on the dome of the edifice of the State, while in ours I recognise the supporting pillar of the same." But, all this notwithstanding, the German Parliament will, in a few years, get the power. A friend of ours who lives in Germany tells us that, if not in King William's reign, it will certainly in that of his successor, the present Crown Prince, if he should live to succeed his father, obtain this privilege. The Crown Prince is far more liberal than his father. Once, indeed, the Crown Prince openly protested against the high-handed doings of Count von Bismarck, and was, in consequence, out of favour with his Royal father for a time, and had to absent himself from Court. "Nor," says the aforesaid friend, "will Bismarck, if he should then be alive, offer opposition to the liberal tendencies of his young master. Having obtained the object of his life's ambition—the union of Germany—Bismarck, it is said, is quite prepared to concede larger privileges to the German Parliament." The Crown Prince is our Princess-Royal's husband; and rumour says that in Germany it is believed that he has been educated in liberal principles by his wife, and that her Royal Highness is very popular therefor. If this be so, all honour to "England's daughter."

GRIEVANCES BEFORE SUPPLY.

We have said that the House, on the 23rd ult., voted the men for the Army and the money for the men. And this was so. But before these votes could be obtained, certain grievances had to be considered. "Grievances before Supply" is a maxim as old as the House of Commons. On the Monday before, Mr. Otto Trevelyan had a grievance to present to the House, which he considered ought to be at once redressed. The grievance was this. The country pays to over a hundred Army Colonels £160,000 for doing nothing—literally nothing. They are not working, nor fighting, but simply ornamental Colonels, if, indeed, they can be called even that. Bad grievance this, one would say; and so said 111 Liberal members. But the Government opposed the redress of this grievance, and the Tories supported the Government; and so redress was not attainable. On Thursday Mr. Mundella, "on motion being made" that Mr. Speaker do leave the chair that the House might go into Committee of Supply, brought forward his grievance—to wit, "that we do not get what we want for the money which we pay." Thus we pay money enough for an efficient army; but we have not got an efficient army; and now the Secretary for War comes to us and asks for three millions more money. "I am of opinion," said Mr. Mundella, in substance, "that you have enough money to make the Army efficient, and I ask the House to refuse to give any more." But we will give Mr. Mundella's opinions as he formulated them in a resolution—namely, "That this House, whilst approving the abolition of purchase in the Army, is of opinion that the Army may be put in a state of efficiency without increasing the ordinary Military Estimates of the year."

MR. MUNDELLA.

Mr. Anthony John Mundella, manufacturer, of Nottingham, first came into Parliament in 1868, as member for Sheffield. Most men who are ambitious to be senators have to try often before they can succeed. Mr. Mundella's first attempt was successful. His opponent was John Arthur Roebuck, whom we know so well, who, after having represented Sheffield nineteen years and been in Parliament thirty, was defeated by a majority of 2642. Alas! that it should have been so! When we heard that Roebuck was banished the House we were disposed to say, "We better could have spared a better man," or rather, a better politician; for John Arthur Roebuck, notwithstanding his political vagaries, was a useful member and a power in the House. He was courageous, would take up subjects which members generally shrink from touching; ecclesiastical and like unpopular matters and cases of oppression of the weak by the strong. And then how clear, incisive, forcible,

was his eloquence! It would be good to have Mr. Roebuck back again, if only to teach members, by example, the art of packing ideas; for he has this art in higher perfection than all the orators we have ever known. The mantle of Roebuck has not been taken up by Mr. Mundella. He won the seat from Roebuck; but he could not win Roebuck's oratorical power. Mr. Mundella is unquestionably a clever man, and a sound politician than his predecessor; and, if eloquence means fluency of speech, he is eloquent. Indeed, he is too eloquent; a common fault this in the House of Commons, and one, we fear, which every day grows more conspicuous and wearisome. In truth, if members will not learn to say what they have to say in fewer words, there must come a time when they must be compelled to do it by a law to limit speeches to a fixed time. Nor is this verbiage confined to speeches; it is seen in all our Parliamentary documents, in clauses of bills, motions, resolutions, &c. Mr. Mundella's resolution is an example. Why say the Army may "be put in a state of efficiency"? "Made efficient" is at once shorter and more forcible. And why say, "without increasing the ordinary military estimates of the year"? "Without increase of cost" fully expresses the idea. This may seem a trifle; but it is no trifle. If all useless verbiage could be strained out of our Parliamentary speeches, their force would be increased, the morning papers might diminish their reporting staff, the House might rise every night at twelve, and many a valuable life would be prolonged. Then Mr. Mundella's speech lacked order, arrangement. On the title of an old work on rhetoric there stands the motto, "He who well divides his subject, will well discuss it;" and this is true, or rather the converse of this—he who does not divide his subject well will not discuss it well—is true. But, nevertheless, Mr. Mundella's speech was useful; the facts were startling, the reasoning correct, the policy advocated sound, and that quotation from the "Biglow Papers" (was it not?) was *ad rem*—

More men? More men—that's where we fail.
Weak things grow weaker yet by lengthening.
What is the use of adding to the tall
When it's the head's in want of strengthening?

Never was a more effective quotation made in the House than this. It exactly hits the blot. We have plenty of soldiers, but no army. Why? Because we have no man of genius to form these soldiers into an army. "It's the head's in want of strengthening." Nor is this only our case. Look at France—all is mere chaos there. If a "bronzed" Lieutenant could but emerge from the crowd, or some other "man of head" could get at the centre of it, how swiftly would the chaos resolve itself into order! When we heard this most pertinent quotation, but for the fear of the Sergeant-at-Arms we should have made the House echo with laughter.

MR. JACOB BRIGHT.

There was much speaking on Mr. Mundella's amendment, but it was not effective speaking. On the contrary, it was for the most part loose, wearisome, ineffective, and what we may call, without impropriety, washy speaking. We must, though, except Mr. Jacob Bright's speech. The hon. member for Manchester has been in the House of Commons over three years. He has often spoken, but we cannot recollect a notice of him in these columns. This is neglect, if not a fault, for Mr. Jacob Bright is a conspicuous member of the Radical party and one of its best speakers. Indeed, that party has no speaker superior to Mr. Jacob Bright. When the hon. member for Manchester first entered the House, about three years ago (he was elected in November, 1867), one frequently heard the remark, "How unlike his brother he is;" and this is so. There is scarcely a glimmer of likeness. It was thought when Mr. Jacob Bright first spoke in the House that he imitated his illustrious brother; but we do not believe that he ever consciously did this. Now and then one discerns something in his enunciation and in his action which reminds us of Mr. John Bright, but nothing indicating conscious imitation. Mr. Jacob Bright has a style of speaking of his own, and it is a very good and effective style. He cannot with propriety be called an orator, nor does he pretend to be one, as some speakers do, and fail. Having something to say to the House, which he honestly believes ought to be said, he rises, stands erect, and says it in good, clear, vigorous English, with enviable ease, appropriate action, and in a somewhat dignified manner. Mr. Jacob Bright is, as we all know, a manufacturer. He was educated, as *Dad* tells us, at a "Friends' school"—not at Eton or Harrow, or any other of those schools where gentlemen's sons go to learn Greek and Latin and the manners of a gentleman; and yet very few of our aristocratic class can address an assembly with the gentlemanly ease of Mr. Jacob Bright. This naturalness and ease no doubt he got from his Quaker training. Most of the Friends have it. Taught from earliest childhood to believe in the natural equality of men, in whatever society they are thrown, they are always self-possessed. It is said that when Mr. John Bright went to Court the goldsticks and silversticks, the Court lords and ladies in waiting, astonished at his ease and self-possession, exclaimed, "Why, he has the manners of a gentleman!" This has always been the characteristic of "the Friends." No rank or splendour appals them. William Allen moved about the palace of the Imperial Czar with no more embarrassment than he felt in his chemist's shop in Plough-court. Truly it is a most enviable quality, this calm, dignified self-possession. Then there is another characteristic which the Quakers have: they speak what they believe, and nothing more. Everybody who has listened to Mr. Jacob Bright must have felt, whilst listening, that the speaker was saying what he earnestly believed—speaking not to gain a seat upon the Treasury bench, nor votes at Manchester, nor popular applause, but his honest convictions. A noble characteristic, readers, this integrity of speech; perhaps the noblest; indeed, without that, there can be nothing truly noble. Ha! if this were but universal, how changed our Parliamentary debates would be, and—how short!

THE NEW FIRST LORD.

Mr. Goschen entered Whitehall as First Lord of the Admiralty, for the first time, about three weeks ago, probably as ignorant of the duties which he would have to perform as he is of navigation. Nevertheless, on Monday last, he introduced, and in a speech two hours long explained, the Navy Estimates, and did his work, as all confessed, surpassingly well. Several members, indeed, of long experience declared that they had never heard a more clear and intelligible statement. How could this be done? Our readers may well ask. The answer is not far to seek. First, Mr. Goschen is a man of great capacity—mark the word, if you please. It means the power of containing or holding. Of course all the facts which he would have to give to the House had to be pumped into him by the permanent officials. Well, he had the capacity to receive and hold these facts. But much more than this was required. He had to understand them all perfectly, and arrange them in order; and not only this, he had to understand the facts, and the why and the wherefore of them, that he might not only state, but explain them and defend them from the attacks of opponent and even bitter critics. And all this he did; and to our mind, considering the short time he had to devote to this work, a great feat it was. There was no small hubbub when Mr. Goschen went to the Admiralty; but Mr. Gladstone evidently knew his man.

Imperial Parliament.

THURSDAY, MARCH 23.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Lunacy Regulation (Ireland) Bill, the Stamp Act Amendment Bill, and the Income Tax Assessment Bill were read the second time; and the Benefices Resignation Bill the third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House was chiefly occupied in debating a resolution, proposed by Mr. MUNDELLA and seconded by Mr. PEASE, to the effect that, whilst

approving the abolition of purchase, the House was of opinion that the Army might be put in a state of efficiency without increasing the ordinary military estimates of last year. The motion was opposed by Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Cardwell, Sir P. Herbert, Mr. Scurfield, and Mr. Holms; and found supporters in Mr. Jacob Bright, Mr. Dixon, and Mr. Candlish. Upon a division, it was rejected by 294 to 91, or the large majority of 203.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

A conversation took place between the Earl of Carnarvon, the Foreign Secretary, the Marquis of Salisbury, Lord Grey, and the Duke of Somerset, respecting the massacre of Europeans at Tien-Tsin in June last. Lord Northbrook announced that breech-loading carbines are in process of being issued to the volunteer artillery, who are also to be furnished with the 40-pounder Armstrong breech-loader. The only business done was to pass the Prison Ministers Bill through its final stage.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. GLADSTONE stated that, if the business was got through as arranged, he proposed that the House should adjourn for the Easter recess from Tuesday, April 4, to Monday, the 17th.

Amongst the questions discussed on the order for supply were the condition of labourers' residences in Ireland, the position of the Irish national schoolmasters, postal communication with Cornwall, the accommodation for carriage traffic between Marlborough House-gate and Storey's-gate, the Court of Hustings (London) Abolition Bill, and the sittings of the Secret Committee on the business of the House.

On the report of Supply, Lord ELCHO moved to reduce the number of men for the Army by ten thousand, and a debate ensued, which resulted in the motion being negatived without a division.

MONDAY, MARCH 27.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The second reading of the bill to legalise marriage with a deceased wife's sister was moved by Lord PENZANCE and opposed by the Duke of NORTHUMBERLAND. There was very little debate in addition to the speeches made by these two noble persons, and upon a division the motion was thrown out by a majority of 26.

The Stamp Act (1870) Amendment Bill and the Income Tax Assessment Bill were respectively passed their final stage; and Lord GRANVILLE informed the Duke of Richmond that, according to present appearances, their Lordships would be asked to adjourn for the Easter recess on Friday, March 31, until Thursday, April 20.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE TORNADO CASE.

Lord ENFIELD informed Mr. Grieve that on Saturday last the Spanish Council of State authorised the payment of the Tornado indemnity money, and that the Finance Minister had intimated to Mr. Layard, our Minister at Madrid, that the money was at his disposal.

DEFENCE OF COMMERCIAL PORTS.

The Consolidated Fund (£462,580) Bill having been read the third time and passed, some discussion ensued on a resolution, moved by Mr. GRAYES, to the effect that it was desirable to make additional provision for the defence of the commercial harbours of the country by building, without delay, gun-vessels of a light draught, armed with heavy guns, which may, in case of emergency, be manned by any existing local or other force; but after eliciting an explanation from the new First Lord of the Admiralty with regard to the defensive measures taken by the Government, the motion was withdrawn.

DEPTFORD DOCKYARD.

Sir J. ELPHINSTONE called attention to the sale of Deptford dockyard, and proposed the appointment of a committee of inquiry into the transaction. This led to a division, which terminated in the rejection of the motion by 141 to 64.

SUPPLY—THE NAVY ESTIMATES.

Mr. GOSCHEN, in Committee of Supply, explained the Naval Estimates. The right hon. gentleman, who was received with a cordial cheer, commenced his statement with a reference to the illness of Mr. Childers and an acknowledgment of the personal services which that gentleman had rendered to the Navy, and which would materially facilitate the labours of his successors in office. He then went on to inform the Committee that the total amount required for the support of the Navy was £9,750,000—being an increase of £385,826 upon the Estimates of last year, exclusive of the vote of credit granted in August. This sum he divided into three parts, and stated that £5,618,000 would be devoted to the personnel of the Navy, in the shape of wages, victuals, and clothing; £3,500,000 to the material; and £700,000 to miscellaneous expenses. Having explained the arrangements which were contemplated as to the employment of the men to be voted, Mr. Goschen stated that the programme of shipbuilding during the ensuing year would be to complete the ironclads and turret-ships now in progress, with the exception of the *Fury*, but to lay down no new ironclads; to increase the number of swift cruisers of the *Incensant* class; and to commence a number of gun-vessels and gun-boats after the pattern of the *Staunch* and the *Snake*. While upon the subject of ships, the right hon. gentleman alluded to a rumour which Sir J. Hay had cited in the earlier part of the evening, as to the report of the Committee upon the stability of our ironclads, and showed by quotations from their confidential reports that they entertained a favourable opinion of the *Devastation*, and of the ships of the *Cyclops* class. Upon the subject of guns, he was able to assure the Committee that we are well provided to meet our present necessities, and that an adequate reserve will be created in the course of the present year.

A general discussion followed upon the principles of naval administration and naval policy. At its close the vote for the wages of seamen and marines was agreed to, and the Chairman was ordered to report progress.

TUESDAY, MARCH 28.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House passed the Lunacy Regulation (Ireland) Bill through Committee, and read the Poor-Law (Loans) Bill and the Consolidated Fund (£462,580) Bill a second time. Some discussion arose on the motion of Lord VIVIAN for a Select Committee to inquire into the state of the law respecting the control of the reserve forces in the several counties of Great Britain. It ended in the proposal being negatived without a division.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. RYLANDS gave notice that he should, on Thursday, move an amendment to Sir C. Dilke's resolution of censure on the Government, that, in the opinion of the House, the course taken by Ministers in accepting the proposition for the assembling of a Conference on the Treaty of Paris of 1856 was consistent with the interest and honour of the country, and calculated to promote the peace of Europe. It being "members' night," a discussion was raised by Mr. A. GUEST on the state of the armament and fortifications of Gibraltar, and by Mr. J. LOWIBER on our municipal law as affecting the export of arms and munitions of war to belligerent States. Several bills were advanced a stage, including the Citation Amendment (Scotland) Bill, the Salmon Fisheries Bill, and the County Justices Qualification Amendment Bill.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House held a short sitting, and passed the third reading of the Consolidated Fund (£462,580 &c. 11d.) Bill.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The House of Commons was mainly occupied in discussing the merits of the bill introduced by Lord SANDON on the subject of Parochial Councils. The noble lord explained that the bill bore a strong resemblance to that which was introduced last year. His design was to increase the power of the parishioners in relation to the regulation of their parish churches, and also to strengthen the hands of the Incumbent of the parish. Mr. BERESFORD-HOPE moved, by way of amendment, that it was inadvisable to hamper the free development of co-operation between the clergy and the laity. After a debate of nearly five hours, it was agreed that the bill should be read the second time, on the understanding that time should be given for the thorough consideration of the question before any attempt was made at legislation.

The Bank Holidays Bill was recommitted; the Mutiny Bill, comprising 104 clauses, passed through Committee; and the Marine Mutiny Bill was read the second time.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Royal assent was given by Commission to the following bills—viz., the Consolidated Fund (£462,580 &c. 11d.) Bill, the Stamp Act (1870) Amendment Bill, and the Income Tax Assessment Bill. The County Property, the Public Parks, &c. (Land), and the Fairs Bills were severally read the second time. The Consolidated Fund (£3,411,900) Bill was read the third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Mr. J. Peel took the oaths and his seat for Tamworth.

THE CONFERENCE ON THE BLACK SEA QUESTION.

Sir C. DILKE called attention to the papers relating to the Conference. He complained in strong terms of the repudiation by the Russian Minister of the obligations of the Treaty of 1856, and especially of the cynical and contemptuous terms in which the right to make that repudiation was assumed, and concluded by moving that "The House regrets her Majesty's Government accepted a proposition for a Conference under the circumstances dis-

closed in the papers and correspondence which had been laid before Parliament.
Mr. RYLANDS moved an amendment in favour of the Government policy. The debate was continued until a late hour; but ultimately the amendment was withdrawn, and Mr. Duke's motion rejected without a division.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1871.

RECURRING DIFFICULTIES.

THERE are certain public difficulties which come round so regularly at about the same season of the year that they are almost matter for a jest in that respect, however serious they may be in themselves. It is true that what is sport to us may be something very disagreeable to the persons more immediately interested; but it never yet was forbidden by the severest moralist to laugh at a man chasing his hat along the street, although his hat might presumably be the only one he had, and his pockets not full. Sometimes the difficulty that we are permitted to smile at is of the making of the very people who complain of it, and then it is certainly none the less ludicrous. The difficulties which have been investigated by the recent Committee on what is called the "Business of the House" are of this kind. The members of the House of Commons make their own rules and regulations. They can sit when they please, and leave off sitting when they please. They can make long speeches or short speeches, at their own pleasure. And yet there are perpetual motions, and speeches, and complaints about the late sittings and the fatigues undergone by honourable members who are kept out of their beds till one or two o'clock in the morning, and even later. The subject is even older than the time of the late Mr. Brotherton. Eight or nine years ago Mr. White, one of the present members for Brighton, made proposals for shortening the business of the House substantially similar to those which most of the members are now ready to acquiesce in; and among these gentlemen was one who, when Mr. White introduced his plan, characterised it as priggish, pedantic, and we rather think he added unconstitutional. Experience, however, is an effectual teacher; and the last two or three Sessions, with excessively prolonged debates in very hot summers, have done wonders. The elected legislators are unanimous in raising the cry for reduced hours of labour; and, undoubtedly, a change for the better will soon be made, though it may probably be at the cost of some sacrifice on the part of private members in certain cases. In the meanwhile there is one thing which will greatly facilitate the shortening of the debates. It is so obvious that it stands in danger of being treated like the doctor's prescription of soap, water, and towel to his dirty patient. "Why, that would be only by washing my feet, doctor." "Well," said the doctor, "it would be liable to that objection." But it is certain that almost every speech made in the House of Commons is longer than it need be. In the chief debate on the last Reform Bill six members wanted to address the House on the night upon which it had been determined to close the debate. There was only an hour and a half left, and the Speaker laid it upon each of the six members that he should take only a quarter of an hour for his address; and it was remarked that most of those six members made unusually good speeches. It is indeed a fact well known to all students of such matters that for want of culture in the art of arranging and expressing ideas the majority of human beings not only use a great many more words than are necessary, but express their meaning imperfectly and feebly, especially on set occasions. Another recurring difficulty which, as the almanacks say, may be looked for about this time is that of Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister. Our readers know that the bill for legalising such marriages has again been rejected by the House of Lords, and that the friends of the measure are no nearer their goal than they were last year. Perhaps, indeed, they have lost ground rather than gained it. We believe that public opinion on this question is but very little instructed, and that it would be good policy on the part of the promoters of the measure to collect and circulate very much more extensively than they have yet done the recorded opinions of distinguished men upon this question. The evidence given before a Committee or Commission (we forget which) several years ago is very interesting in itself; and in these days, when so much weight is attached by that mysterious body known as the "general public" to the authority of prominent persons whom it has reason to respect, it would be sound policy to take effectual care that the majority of men and women shall know the views held upon this subject by those whom they look up to as leaders in other matters.

THE LOUNGER.

THE house of Hohenzollern has just risen to a great height. Here is an account of its origin, or, rather, of its first step out of obscurity, which will be interesting to your readers. It is taken from Carlyle's "History of Frederick the Great." "It was in these same years (about 1170) that a stout young fellow, far off in the southern parts of Germany (Suabia), set out from the castle of Hohenzollern, where he was but a junior and had small outlooks, upon a great errand in the world. From Hohenzollern, bound now towards Gernhausen, Kaiserstauten, or whatever temporary lodging Kaiser Barbarossa might be known to have, who was a wandering man, his business lying everywhere over half the world and needing master's eye. Conrad's purpose is to find Barbarossa, and seek fortune under him. This is a very indisputable event of these same years. The exact date, the figure, the circumstances of it, were most likely never written anywhere but upon Conrad's brain and are now rubbed out for evermore; but the event is certain. Somewhere about the year 1170, likeliest a few years before that, this Conrad, riding down from Hohenzollern, probably with no great stock of luggage about him, little dreams of being connected with Brandenburg, but is, unconsciously, more so than any other of the sons of Adam." Many generations have come and gone since the event occurred, and now the lineal descendant of Conrad is Emperor of Germany.

A friend of your Lounge—that Times' correspondent who wrote such graphic accounts of the fortresses after the sieges, the sermon at Strasbourg, the hanging of the officer at Metz, his conversation with Erckmann at Phalsbourg—thinks that the Alsations are not exceedingly discontented, and will not long be discontented at all with their lot. The explosion of discontent which sounded so loudly at first came mainly from French officials, whose name is legion. By this change their occupation is gone, and naturally they grieve. But the mass of the people will in a short time take to the new order quietly. They are in manners, and speech, and physique Germans, and not French. This was strikingly seen when the French prisoners passed through Alsace. They were strangers in a foreign land; with the inhabitants they could not converse. But the German soldiers were quite at home. The Mulhausen manufacturers may suffer for a time, as their goods—cotton, woollen, linen, &c., mainly went to France; and it is presumable that the French Government, when France shall get a Government, will put a prohibitory duty upon German produce. But I am told by manufacturers and merchants that Germany will offer a field which will amply compensate these manufacturers for the loss of France. Then there is this consideration, surely a very weighty one. These Alsations and the Lorraine Germans will have security. No Red Republicans or Communists will overrun their borders. Nor will the waves of civil war, if civil war should rage in France, ravage their country. A grand thing this to be under a stable Government; a very potent, assuaging anodyne, one would think, for any irritating mortification and discontent that may still rankle in the people's minds. Security, peace, freedom on one side of the border, on the other side a dance of demons. Methinks that, were I an Alsation or a German Lorraine, I should contentedly submit to fate, and thank God for the change.

A letter from my aforesaid friend has this moment come to hand, and here is an extract from it:—"All my way back through Germany I find every railway station, and every house abutting on them, garlanded and decked with greetings to Fatherland's returning warriors. The land seems jubilant, and crowds through the railway borders to cheer the passers by. I saw yesterday a train of captured cannon of enormous length. It required nine engines to draw it." In July last my friend was describing for the Times the passage of materials of war and troops in trains of enormous lengths going the other way.

A correspondent, who signs himself "Nemo," and hails from Chatham, has been trying his hand at a little "goak." He takes me to task for the remarks I made the other week touching the proper place in which to put the initials of the London postal districts in addressing letters. "Nemo" quotes—and here lies the fun of the thing—the directions issued on the point by the Post-Office authorities in 1866, where, in the example given, the initials of the district are placed *after* the word London; and of course he thinks this conclusive against me. "A mad wag, this, my masters." As if any man, not being a Government officer, or insane, or a quizzer, would ever dream of adducing the official style as affording rules for writing English! Cobbett was wont to cull examples of bad grammar from Royal speeches; and if living grammarians would bethink them of examining official deliverances, they would hit upon an inexhaustible mine of wealth in the shape of things people who wish to write decent English should avoid. And as "that very great swell the P. M. General" (I quote "Nemo's" words here) is not, or was not, exempt from official failings in respect to English composition, I must respectfully decline to accept him as an infallible guide in the matter. Besides, though "Nemo" may not know it, the blunder was pointed out and laughed at when it was made. Probably, however, it was never corrected, for the official mind dislikes acknowledging an error. But, disregarding authority, and freeing himself, if he can, from the influence of the official air of Chatham, will "Nemo" bring his common-sense to bear on the matter? The rule with Englishmen in directing letters is to put the most comprehensive word of the address last, and to work backwards to the most definite; and the same rule is followed by post-office employes in sorting letters for dispatch or delivery. Now, as the greater includes the less, not the less the greater; and as London is greater than any of its postal districts, it is clear that *they* must be included in *it*, not *it* in *them*; therefore the postal district initials ought to precede, not follow, the word "London." There is no place in the three kingdoms, or in the world, that I ever heard of, known by the name of E.C., or East Central, save a portion of the city of London; *ergo*, once more, the letters indicating that portion ought to precede—be subordinate to—London itself. Supposing my friend "Nemo" were to address a letter thus:—"James Thompson, Esq., 300, Princes-street, Scotland, Edinburgh," would he not do a very absurd thing? And yet Edinburgh is no less comprehended within, and subordinate to, Scotland, than the E.C. district is comprehended within, and subordinate to, London. It is not unusual to address letters to "Edinburgh, N.B.," which is quite right, because these initials stand for "North Britain," and "North Britain" is more comprehensive than "Edinburgh;" but the practice is objectionable, because the letters "N.B." also stand for, and are used to indicate, "New Brunswick," and confusion may arise. So the old designation, "Scotland," is preferable; but, as no sane man, in directing a letter, would think of placing the name of a town in Scotland after the name of Scotland itself, so no sensible man ought to put the initials of a district of London after the name of London itself. I beg your pardon for devoting so much space to this comparatively trivial matter; but the commonness of the blunder, the high authority that sanctioned it, and the tenacity with which men like "Nemo" stick to it, must be my excuse.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.
THE MAGAZINES, ETC.

The *Fortnightly Review* contains a paper by Mazzini, on "Italy and the Republic," which is very remarkable for the moderation of its tone with respect to the mere forms of political activity, which Mazzini desires should be directed towards the attainment of the ends to which he has consecrated his life. True, when we read, "Given the first principles which I have laid down as the foundation of the common pact of fraternity and faith, the interpreter can be no other than the people—the nation"—we are not much enlightened. Nor, if "God and the people are the two sole terms" which survive political analysis, are we enlightened—because various questions remain still unsettled; notably, questions of method for realising given objects. If we say that the voice of the people is the voice of God—and

this is what Mazzini and Lamennais would say—how much nearer are we? What is the people? And how are we to know its voice? If the answer is that these questions are to be settled by historical analysis, we are sent still further afield. That is to say, we come down from the third heaven of intuition or demonstration to the sphere of probabilities. However, it is of no use discussing these questions with the living Mazzini (veteran as he is) or with the ghost of Lamennais. Mr. Leslie Stephen has a long and interesting paper on "De Quincey," which is very successful in fixing the weak points of De Quincey as man and writer, and is, besides, highly readable. But anybody could fix those weak points; the real difficulty of all such cases is a subsequent one. How, after all this pulling to pieces and minute abuse of the fragments of what—God rest his soul!—was once a man; how, I say, are we to make a human figure of De Quincey? In other words, we have here plenty of successful enumeration of faults and follies, literary and other; but they are like so many wens, warts, or other tumours preserved in spirits in a pathological museum. We are not shown how the good came out of the bad or the bad out of the good; and De Quincey is ten times more strange to us than ever.

There have been some good essays of late in *Once a Week*, and the Readings by Lieutenant Mosely have all been extremely laudable.

A pamphlet entitled "Remarks on Quantity and Metre," by Valerius, is really deserving of a longer notice than I can give it in this corner. But the peculiarity of the book is that the author puts his first principles at the end instead of the beginning. The remarks on Quantity and Metre would very well stand alone, but the author has not left them to do so. On the contrary, he has towards the close of his pamphlet gone with disproportionate breadth of treatment into the whole history of human growth, including arts, laws, and what not. It is perfectly true that "Law, even in civilised countries, is full of errors, and even punishes as crimes actions quite indifferent;" but the general reader (not the present writer) will wonder what this has to do with "Quantity and Metre." However, the pamphlet is one that I could warmly recommend, though the author clearly makes a mistake in admission when he says in note A that his "inquiry has been made on purely empirical principles." This is entirely wrong.

In one of your morning contemporaries, Mr. Editor, I find the Royal Albert Hall referred to in the following terms:—

The appearance within is *pleasing to the highest degree*. One begins, almost involuntarily, to think of the Roman amphitheatres, with their tiers of spectators looking down into the arena where gladiators engage in mortal combat, and one almost expects to see the doors in the high barrier around the central inclosure open to admit the savage beasts and courageous athletes.

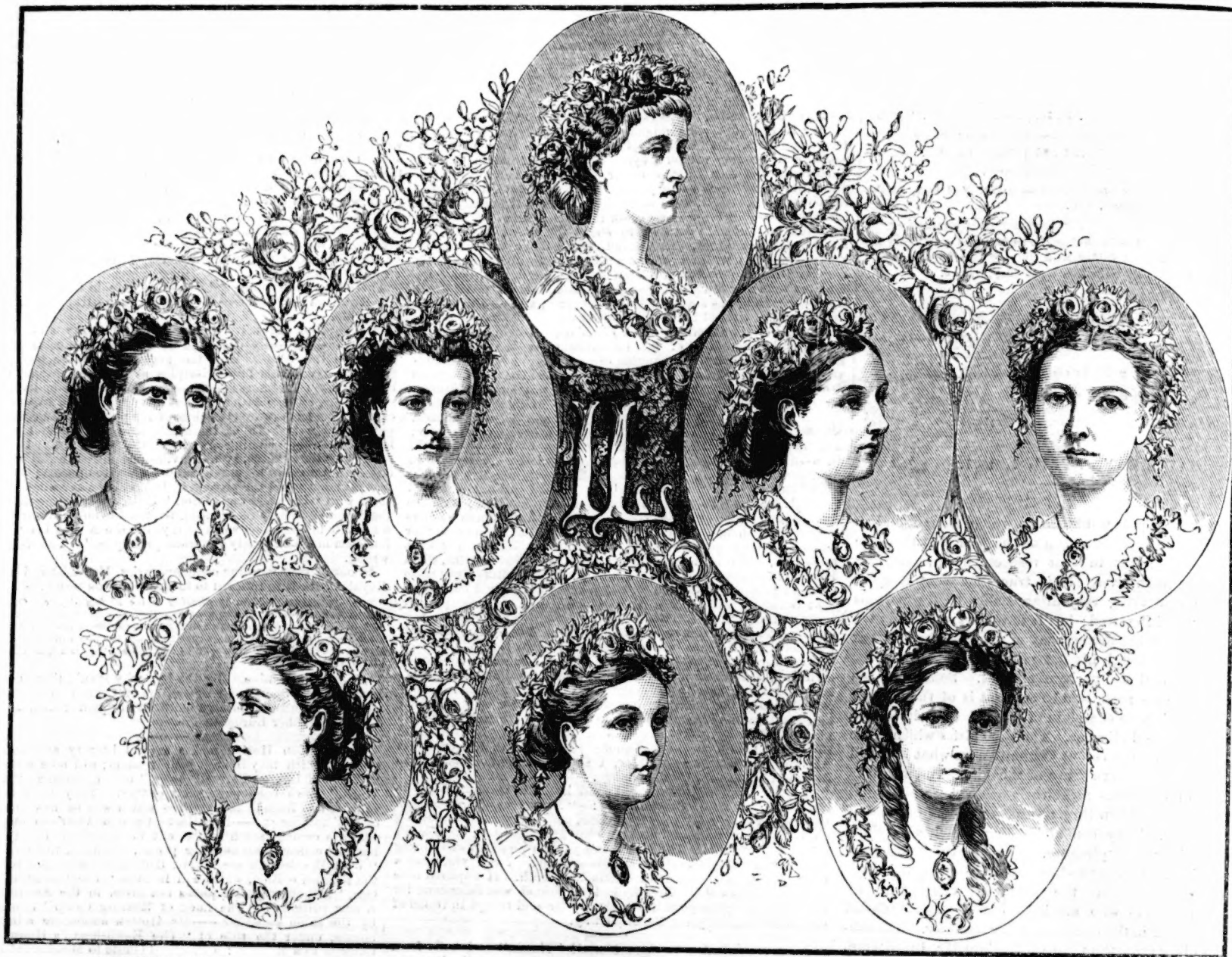
The italics are mine. By-the-by, why should there not be an International Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals? It would be interesting to see a bullfight in Spain treated as a *casus belli* by the other European Powers.

Mr. Camden Hotten makes several literary announcements, some of which may interest your readers; so I note a few. The "Works of Charles Farrer Browne," better known as "Artemus Ward," have been gathered together. They form a goodly volume, and include many pieces which will be new to admirers of the humourist.—Bret Harte, the new American humourist, who has created much excitement in American literary circles, has just collected his amusing poems, including the now famous "That Heathen Chinee." Mr. Hotten has arranged to publish the English edition, which will include "The Circassian Played Out," and other quaint pieces not given in the American issue. A new edition of "The Luck of Roaring Camp" is announced by the same publisher.—Mr. Hotten announces a book about houses, under the title of "The Englishman's House, from a Cottage to a Mansion: a Practical Guide to Members of Building Societies, and all interested in selecting or building a house, with nearly six hundred illustrations. By C. J. Richardson, architect." The book is published at a moderate price for popular reading.—Mr. Hotten's long-promised "Story of the London Parks"—Hyde Park, St. James's Park, the Green Park, and Mary-Bone Garden—is at length about to appear. The work will be in two volumes, with numerous illustrations, and, it is said, might be very well styled "An amusing description of London polite society during all the changes of fashion which have taken place from the days of Elizabeth to Victoria."

THE FEMALE SCHOOL OF ART.

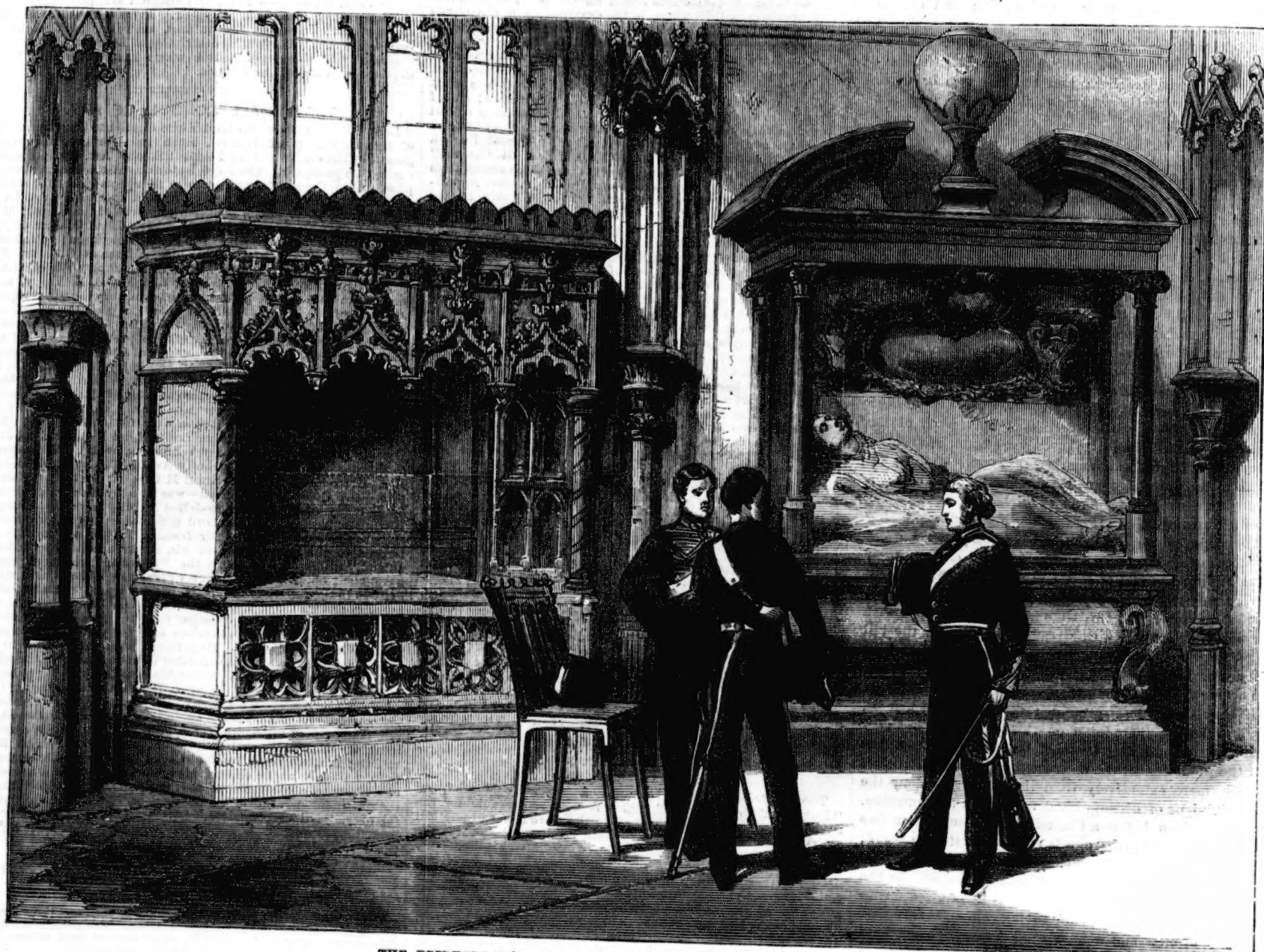
LAST Saturday afternoon Lord Elcho distributed, in the theatre of the University of London, Burlington-gardens, the prizes gained by the students of the Female School of Art, Queen-square, during the past year. The large lecture theatre was almost completely filled, the greater proportion of the spectators being ladies; and among those who sat behind or around the table were Lady Elcho; Miss Louisa Gann, the superintendent of the school; Miss Emily Faithfull; Mr. Richard Burchett, Head Master of the South Kensington School; Professor Donaldson; Professor Westmacott, R.A.; Sir W. Stirling, Alderman Gibbons, Mr. George Godwin, Mr. L. Pocock; Mr. H. Hopley White, Q.C.; Mr. J. H. Fordham, Mr. W. Smith; and Mr. L. R. Valpy, hon. sec. The last-named gentleman read a very lengthy report, which described in great detail the proceedings of the school and the successes of its scholars during last year. Its general result was that the high standard of excellence previously reached had been fully maintained; that the number of students had increased by thirty-one; and that in the national competition of 1870 the students had carried off five Queen's prizes—two silver and three bronze medals—as against the same number of Queen's prizes and one silver medal won in the previous year. The successful competitors in the national competition were Catherine Banks, Charlotte James, Emily Selous, Alice Locke, Alice Blanche Ellis, Julia Pocock, Edith Boyle, and Mary Whiteman Webb. Third-grade certificates were received by Emily Austin, C. Banks, E. Mauby, Mrs. Eliza Molyneux, and Sarah M'Gregor; and the principal prize—the Queen's gold medal—was won by Miss Emily Selous for a study of the figure modelled in clay from the antique. Having delivered the prizes, Lord Elcho addressed a few observations to the students and their friends. After a humorous reference to the presumption of his, as an admittedly "inferior animal," attempting to lecture the "superior" sex, he expressed a confident opinion that, whatever difference of sentiment might exist as to the propriety of women having open to them walks of industry and means of livelihood which men had hitherto monopolised, there could be no question that the fine arts afforded a legitimate field for their exertions and for the display of their peculiar taste and skill. He referred with satisfaction to the excellent training which was afforded to young ladies in the school in Queen-square, and to the admirable results which it produced; and congratulated the pupils upon the fact that some of their works had been selected for show at the approaching International Exhibition. At this point the noble Lord diverged into an elaborate laudation of the South Kensington Museum and its management, which he contrasted with that of other Government institutions; but, returning to the subject more immediately before the meeting, he at the close of his remarks addressed a few words of advice and encouragement to the students, recommending to the successful ones the motto "Excelsior," and to the unsuccessful ones, "Nil desperandum." Short addresses were also delivered by Professor Westmacott, Alderman Gibbons, Mr. G. Godwin, Professor Donaldson, and Mr. Burchett; and the proceedings closed with votes of thanks to the council of the University of London for the use of the theatre, and to Lord Elcho for presiding.

THE LONDON STEROSCOPIC COMPANY has just published a very fine photographic portrait of the Marquis of Lorne. The portrait is issued in different sizes, so as to be suitable for either large or small albums, or for framing; and has the noble Marquis's autograph attached.



LADY MARY BUTLER. LADY FLORENCE MONTAGUE. LADY ELIZABETH CAMPBELL. LADY CONSTANCE SEYMOUR. LADY AGATHA RUSSELL.
LADY ALICE FITZGERALD. LADY FLORENCE LENNOX. LADY GRACE GORDON.

THE LATE ROYAL MARRIAGE: THE BRIDESMAIDS.—(SEE "ILLUSTRATED TIMES," MARCH 25, PAGE 186.)



THE BRIDEGROOM'S APARTMENT, ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL, WINDSOR.



THE LATE ROYAL MARRIAGE: THE CEREMONY IN ST. GEORGE'S CHAPEL, WINDSOR.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY, accompanied by Princesses Louise and Beatrice, Prince Leopold, and the Marquis of Lorne, arrived at Buckingham Palace from Windsor Castle on Tuesday. In the afternoon the Queen held a Drawing-room, at which a number of presentations were made.

THE PRINCE OF WALES visited the Emperor Napoleon at Chislehurst last Saturday. His ex-Majesty returned the courtesy by paying a visit to the Queen at Windsor on Monday.

THE QUEEN OF SWEDEN died at a quarter past eleven on Thursday morning.

LORD REDESDALE, who has been suffering from a long and severe illness, is improving in health. His Lordship is now able to go out for drives.

MR. BOXALL, Professor Sterndale Bennett, Mr. Benedict, and Dr. George Elvey, have received the honour of knighthood.

THE CONSECRATION OF DR. DANELL, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Southwark, in succession to the late Dr. Grant, took place in St. George's Cathedral on Saturday morning.

THIRTEEN HUNDRED MARINE TORPEDOES are now in course of delivery at Woolwich Arsenal.

THE CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES for the current year were issued on Wednesday. Their total is £10,605,544, as against £10,729,659 voted last year.

THE BISHOP OF WINCHESTER has presented the Rectory of St. Mary, Southampton, worth £1000 a year, to a son of his, the Rev. Basil Wilberforce, now Curate of St. Jude's, Southsea. The rectory has a detached residence in several acres of ground, in addition to the above value.

THE FOLLOWING GENTLEMEN were elected Associates of the Society of Painters in Water Colours on Saturday:—Messrs. A. Goodwin, W. M. Hale, A. B. Houghton, H. S. Marks, A. R. A., R. W. Macbeth, and J. W. North.

THE "COUNTRESS OF DERWENTWATER" has been adjudicated bankrupt at Newcastle County Court, on a petition signed by Lord Camperdown and Sir Spencer Robinson, two of the Lords of the Admiralty.

SIXTY-EIGHT BATTALIONS OF VOLUNTEERS will be represented at the review on Easter Monday, and the number of men upon the ground, exclusive of the regular forces, is expected to exceed 25,000.

THE NEW TESTAMENT REVISION COMPANY, which is now sitting, has reached the last quarter of the Gospel of St. Matthew. It is anticipated that the revised version of that Gospel will be completed and published at an early date.

ALL VACANCIES occurring for some time to come in the Exchequer and Audit Office will be filled by the appointment of temporary writers instead of established clerks, as heretofore.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM ARMSTRONG (1860), who was lately in command of her Majesty's ship Prince Consort, has been appointed Superintendent of Pembroke Dockyard. Captain Armstrong has had about thirty years' sea service, and now holds a home appointment for the first time.

THE GOVERNMENT BILL for the Adjustment of Local Taxation will be brought forward in the House of Commons on April 4, at a morning sitting. Mr. Goschen, under whose care, at the Poor-Law Board, the bill was framed, will probably introduce it.

A FIRE broke out on the premises of a corndealer named Greene, in the Pavilion-road, Chelsea, at an early hour on Sunday morning, and before adequate assistance could be rendered five persons were burnt to death.

THE DOVER YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION passed a vote by which *Punch* was excluded from the reading-room, on the ground that an illustration and accompanying dialogue showed a disposition to treat religious matters slightly. The pious young men have now rescinded their previous vote by a majority of twenty-five to twenty-one.

A FORCE of 30,000 MEN, comprising regulars, militia, yeomanry, and volunteers, will, it is expected, march from Aldershot to some place in Berkshire, where pitched battles will be fought daily, and decided by an umpire, after the Prussian system. This will test the capabilities of the Control Department, and even now we hear they are commencing to "pack up."

MR. MACLEOD, steward to Lord Londesborough, fell down on the pavement in Piccadilly last Saturday morning, and on being taken to a surgeon's was found to be dead. He was fifty-four years of age, and had for a considerable time past complained of severe pains in the chest and head.

HANNAH PEENY, a native and resident of King's Lynn, completed the hundredth year of her age on Sunday. The old lady is a widow, and is an inmate of one of the almshouses. Although not enjoying robust health, she rises early, makes her own bed, and generally attends to her own domestic affairs.

OLAUDE SCOTT WOOLLEY was again charged on remand, on Tuesday, with the murder of Samuel Lee, a potman, at Brompton. The only witness was the prisoner's father, whose evidence threw no additional light upon the main issue involved. Another remand was ordered.

THE GERMANS have begun to pull down the fortifications of Strasbourg. The old fortifications are to be razed and replaced by a girdle of detached forts somewhat similar to those round Paris. The line of forts will be very extensive, and will include Kehl, on the right bank of the Rhine.

A WOMAN NAMED GRACE WILSON was, on Tuesday, charged at Bow-street with having been concerned in several cases of fraud. Adopting the plea set up for the defence of Mrs. Torpey, she said that all she had done was by her husband's directions. This, however, did not interfere with the magistrate ordering her to be remanded.

TWELVE THOUSAND PERSONS engaged in the cotton trade met at Oldham, on Saturday, and passed resolutions in favour of ceasing work at noon, instead of at two o'clock, on Saturdays; threatening to regard the proposed change as an accomplished fact, "so far as Oldham and its neighbourhood are concerned," by stopping at the time named on the 8th proximo, with or without the consent of employers.

AN AUDACIOUS CASE OF CHILD DESERTION has occurred in the neighbourhood of Bristol. A woman with a child in her arms called at a house and asked permission to leave her baby, which she represented she was about to put out to nurse, until she went back to a village to recover something she had forgotten. Permission was given, but the woman, who left a feeding-bottle and 4s. 6d. on the table, never returned. The child has been sent to the union. It is believed that the woman, who was well dressed, was from Bristol.

VICE-CHANCELLOR SIR JOHN STUART retired from the Bench last Saturday, after an address from Mr. Greene, Q.C., on behalf of the Bar, expressive of respect for the learned Judge, and of the best wishes for his health at the close of his judicial labours. Sir John Stuart is now in the seventy-eighth year of his age, and was appointed a Judge of First Instance in Equity under the Chancellorship of Lord St. Leonards, in September, 1852.

MR. EDWARD HOWES, M.P. for South Norfolk, has just died, in the fifty-eighth year of his age. He had filled the office of Chairman of the Norfolk Quarter Sessions for twenty-two years. Mr. Howes, who was a Conservative, entered the House of Commons as one of the members for East Norfolk in May, 1859; and, after the county had been redivided by the Reform Act of 1867, he was returned for the southern division.

A MEETING IN FAVOUR OF WOMAN SUFFRAGE was held in St. James's Hall, last Saturday evening, under the presidency of Sir Robert Anstruther, M.P. The speakers were Mr. Jacob Bright, Dr. Lyon Playfair, Mr. P. A. Taylor, the Hon. Abernethy Herbert, Professor Fawcett, Professor C. Leslie, and Mr. George Howell. The resolutions declared that the exclusion of women from representation was injurious not only to their own welfare, but to the interests of the whole community; that women, being held, equally with men, responsible to law, should therefore have equal votes in electing those who make the laws; and that petitions should be signed in favour of the Women's Suffrage Bill.

THE CAPTAIN RELIEF FUND.—A meeting of the managing committee of the Captain Relief Fund was held at the Mansion House on Monday—the Lord Mayor presiding. A report was presented, showing the manner in which it was proposed to distribute the fund. The amount required was about £60,000, and of this nearly £54,000 had been collected. The report referred to the fact that the widow of Captain Burgoyne had generously declined to receive any grant from the committee, thus contributing in effect about £930.

PRIZE FARMING IN YORKSHIRE.—The Council of the Yorkshire Agricultural Association have just taken a bold step to stimulate the farmers of Yorkshire into competitive farming. The council have announced their intention to give three premiums for the three best examples of profitable farming in the county, each farm not to be of less than one hundred acres. The best will secure for its occupier £300 and a silver cup of £50; the second, £200 and a cup of £20; and the third, £100 and a cup of £10. The entrance fee is to be 1s. per acre, and there must not be less than ten competitors; or, if this number of entries is not made by Aug. 1 next, the council do not bind themselves to go on with the scheme. Six gentlemen will be nominated as judges by the council, but only three will be required, to be selected by the votes of the competitors. The judges are to make their first inspection in October, 1871, and the last in March, 1874, and the decision will be given during the great Yorkshire show in 1874. The judges will be desired to discountenance high cultivation without profitable results, the object being to show that by a wise and liberal application of capital and skill to cultivation of land a profit will result.

MARRIAGES OF ENGLISH PRINCESSES WITH ENGLISH NOBLEMEN.

As the marriage of Princess Louise has called a good deal of attention to by-past matches of a like nature, it may be of interest to give some information as to the unions that have taken place between Princesses of the Blood-Royal and English subjects.

Interest and policy seem to have been the motive powers in the first match of this kind mentioned in English history. Royal pride, slow to melt, yielded to these potent solvents. The Council of Regency who ruled for the young King Henry III., wishing to strengthen their power, offered the hand of Eleanor, the third daughter of the usurper John, to the Earl of Pembroke, the son of the first conqueror of Ireland. This grand noble, Lord of Chepstow, Wexford, and Kildare, had already been sought as a son-in-law by a King of Scotland and a Duke of Brabant. He held Royal castles which the Princess alone could induce him to surrender. True, Eleanor was only five, and the Earl forty; yet, when did statesmen stick at trifles? The Earl was not very ardent in the matter, yet a Royal alliance was not to be despised. The jealous Council made difficulties. The marriage would make the man who ruled the Welsh and Irish frontier too powerful. Moreover, a foreign marriage would secure useful allies for Normandy. To this the Earl's friends pleaded precedents of Princesses of France who had married powerful subjects with no ill results; above all, gratitude was due to a warrior who had wrested some of the strongest frontier fortresses from the Welsh Princes—so the marriage took place in due time, and, considering all things, was reasonably happy. On the Earl's death the Princess married Simon de Montfort, the great Earl of Leicester, and dwelt at Kenilworth in almost regal splendour.

Joanna, third daughter of Edward I., was also married to a subject, from reasons of State policy. Her husband, Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Hereford, and surnamed the Red, was the most powerful noble in England after Simon de Montfort was slain. The Earl resided in the "pleasant village" of Clerkenwell, when vines grew on the banks of the Old Bourne, and London students were in the habit of strolling out on summer evenings to the brook that rippled through the northern meadows. Joanna afterwards married Ralph de Monthermer, an obscure knight, whom the heralds of the time described as making "no bad appearance, when attired in his own arms, which were yellow, with a green eagle." The King was at first furious at this mesalliance, and talked only of axes and heading blocks; but Joanna pleaded that, as a great Earl could take a poor and mean woman to wife, so it did not misbecome her to honour a gallant youth. Isabella, eldest daughter of Edward III., also married a subject, but a French subject. After being jilted by an Earl of Flanders, at a mature age she married Ingelram de Concy, one of the hostages to King John of France, after our great victory at Poitiers. He was one of the most chivalrous and accomplished knights of his time; but the marriage was not a happy one. The wars between France and England kept him in a constant state of oscillation between his French suzerain and his English father-in-law, and his broad lands lying nearer the first than the last, De Concy's love at last yielded to interest, and he sent his wife back to her friends. The daughters of Edward IV. were, from policy, permitted by Henry VII. (who was always astute and watchful) to marry subjects. Anne, the fifth daughter, after coquetting with a Scotch Prince, eventually married Lord Thomas Howard, one of the heroes of Flodden, and the father (by a later marriage) of the Poet-Earl of Surrey. Catherine, another daughter of Edward IV., married one of the Devonshire Courtenays, the same Earl who defended Exeter so gallantly against Perkin Warbeck.

But the most romantic marriage of an English Princess with a subject was that between Mary, the beautiful sister of Henry VIII., and Charles Brandon, one of the most handsome and knightly nobles of their age. Her first husband had been Louis XII. of France, an old man fast tottering into the grave, and the beautiful bride had refused to consent to this distasteful marriage (in spite of two chests brimming with jewels that the old King had prepared for her in Paris), except on the condition that after his death she might marry whom she liked without let or hindrance from her brother or Wolsey. Louis XII. did not long survive the marriage, and "La Reine Blanche," as she was called from her white robes of coquettish widowhood, almost instantly married her old lover, Brandon, secretly, in an oratory, at the Hotel Cluny. Henry and Wolsey were, at first, furious, but they gradually relented. In memory of this imminent danger, Brandon is said to have written under his portrait the following quatrain:—

Cloth of gold do not despise,
Though thou be matched with cloth of frize,
Cloth of frize be not too bold,
Though thou be matched with cloth of gold.

People at the time complained because Mary had not been married to a Castilian Prince, but they comforted themselves with the reflection that at all events she had taken no riches out of the realm.

This was the last avowed match of a Princess with a subject. But it was supposed that later in life Elizabeth, daughter of James I., the brave though unfortunate Queen of Bohemia, the "Queen of Hearts," as she was often called, had secretly married her late husband's staunch friend, then Lord Craven, whose house in Drury-lane she for some time occupied; but the Craven family deny this, and there seems no real warrant for the belief. In the same way Mary, the eldest daughter of Charles I., after losing her husband, the Prince of Orange, was said to have married Harry Jermyn, a young noble about the Court.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF 1871.—The musical arrangements for the opening of the exhibition on May 1 are nearly completed, and new compositions representative of France, Italy, Germany, and England, respectively will be produced for the occasion by M. Gounod, Chevalier Pisenti, Dr. Ferdinand Hiller, and Mr. Arthur Sullivan. M. Gounod will produce a psalm, Chevalier Pisenti a chorale to English words, Dr. Hiller a march, and Mr. Arthur Sullivan a cantata.

A PUBLIC BENEFACTOR.—A gentleman who, it was recently stated, was prepared to expend £30,000 in the erection of a lunatic asylum for the benefit of the lower middle class, is proceeding to carry forward that purpose, according to the *Builder*, which now has authority to state that the same gentleman is prepared to devote for public and useful purposes a sum equal to that given by the late Mr. Peabody, so soon as he can satisfy himself as to the best means of effecting this, so as to do the greatest public good, and to avoid the risk of pauperising classes who might not in their present position be eligible recipients in public opinion for such a gift.

MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.—Amongst the peers who voted in the minority on the Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister Bill were the Duke of Beaufort, the Earl of Derby, Earl Grey, Lord Hylton, and Lord Overstone. The Bishop of Ripon was the only Prelate who voted with the contents, while in the opposite lobby were the Bishops of Bath and Wells, Chester, Chichester, Ely, Gloucester and Bristol, Hereford, Lichfield, Lincoln, Llandaff, London, Oxford, Rochester, and Salisbury. In the majority also were the Lord Chancellors of England and Ireland, the Duke of Argyll and Somerset, the Marquis of Salisbury, the Earl of Carnarvon, Lords Brougham, Denman, Lytton, Lynden, Panmure, and Stratheden. The Earl of St. Germans paired in favour of the bill, and his son, Lord Elliot, voted against it.

MR. CHILDERS.—The late First Lord of the Admiralty has remained for the present week at Badwell Park, Hertfordshire. He was visited professionally, on Sunday last, by Mr. Robert Ellis, who reports favourably on the general state of his health, though he is still weak and incapable of much exertion. Mr. Childers is advised to travel on the Continent by easy stages until the medicinal springs be open. It is considered that then a course of mineral waters will probably be of great benefit to the right hon. gentleman, and it is believed that at no very distant period he may return, reinvigorated, to public life. We have authority for adding that Mr. Childers had none of the formidable and hopeless diseases which public rumour has so freely assigned to him. His is the not uncommon case of an over-anxious temperament exhausting for a time the physical powers, but without producing any organic disease. That complete repose which can only be had by the surrender of responsibility and by entire absence from toil is, consequently, the chief requisite for his recovery. There exists, in fact, no reason whatever to doubt the accuracy of the prognosis already published in our columns as to his gradual but entire restoration to health and active service after a rest of some months.

THE LORDSHIP OF LORNE.

(From "The Land of Lorne," by Robert Buchanan.)

In a certain sense, the whole Hebrides are the Land of Lorne, Skye as much so as Kerrera, Coll and Tiree and Rum as much as Appin and Awe, Loch Scavaig and Loch Eishart as much so as Lochs Feochan and Etive. The family house of Lorne began with a son of Somerled, Thane of Argyll and Lord of the Isles, who worried and bullied the Scottish King, Malcolm, until slain in battle at Renfrew. By a daughter of Olaus, King of Man, Somerled had two sons, Ronald and Dougal, the first of whom was the ancestor of the Lords of the Isles, or Macdonalds, and the second of whom bequeathed his surname to the Lords of Lorne, or Macdougalls. Dougal got for his birthright certain mainland territories in Argyshire, now known as the three districts of Lorne, but his name and fame stretched far further and embraced many of the isles. He resided in the stronghold of Dunstaffnage, with all the power and more than the glory of a petty prince. Thenceforward, the Macdougalls of Lorne increased and multiplied. At the time when Haco invaded the west (1263) they were great and prosperous, and fierce in forays against the Cailean Mòr, or Knight of Loch Awe, from whom comes the ducal house of Argyll. For year after year the Macdougall of Lorne fought against the dominion of Bruce, who had slain the Red Comyn, Lorne's father-in-law, in the Dominican church at Dumfries; wherefore Bruce, when his power rose in Scotland, marched into Argyshire to lay waste the country. John of Lorne, son of the chieftain, was posted with his clansmen in the Pass of Awe, a wild and narrow pathway, passing on below the verge of Ben Cruachan, and surrounded by precipices to all appearance inaccessible. The military skill of Bruce, however, enabled him to obtain possession of the heights above, whence his archers discharged a fatal volley of arrows on the discomfited men of Argyll, who were routed with great slaughter—John, their leader, just managing to escape by means of his boats on the lake. After this victory, Bruce "harried" Argyshire, and besieging Dunstaffnage Castle, on the west shore of Lorne, reduced it by fire and sword, and placed in it a garrison and governor of his own. Alaster, the chieftain, at last submitted; but John, still rebellious, escaped to England. When the wars between the Bruce and Balliol factions again broke out, in the reign of David II., the Macdougalls, with their hereditary enmity to the house of Bruce, were again upon the losing side. David II. and his successor stripped them of the greater part of their territories, and in 1431 one Robert Stuart was appointed to administer their lands under the title of Seneschall of Lorne. In spite of all this terrible adversity, the Macdougalls still continued to exist, even to flourish, in a private way. They retained the Castle of Dunollie, with the titles of chieftainship over the clan. But in the year 1715 the irrepressible blood burst forth again, and the Macdougall of the period, having joined the insurrection, found himself mulcted of his estate. Thirty years afterwards, however, it was restored to the family, whom ad experience had rendered quiescent during the rebellion of that period. The present representative, a quiet Major in the Army, eats the Queen's bread, and preserves the family glory in a modest unassuming way. He has a modern house and farm close to the ruins of Dunollie, the ancient stronghold of his race.

The fortunes of the Stuart house of Lorne, until its amalgamation with the ducal family of Argyll, may be followed in the subjoined extract from a sketch by Mr. Smith, schoolmaster, of Inverary, contributed to *Macmillan's Magazine*. The narrative presents a certain interest at the present moment:—

According to one authority—he refers for proof to "Inventory of Argyll Writs, title Lorne"—Robert Stewart, of Rosyth, married the daughter of John of Lorne (Macdougall), and afterwards sold the chieftainship he had thus obtained to his own brother, John Stewart of Innermeath. Others affirm positively that it was the latter himself who married the heiress, and thus got the lands and title; others still—and this is the view upheld by local tradition—that the marriage did not take place till after he had been put in possession by the Crown. This transaction, whatever may have been its real nature, must have taken place either late in the fourteenth or early in the fifteenth century. Taken in connection with the result of the previous dynastic struggles, it had, as we shall presently see, an important bearing on the future fortune of the house.

On the opposite shore of Loch Awe, as already noted, dwelt the Campbells, the hereditary foes of the Macdougalls. Down to the time of Bruce, ages of deadly strife and bloodshed had only served to deepen the feud between the two clans, the Macdougalls having been so far able to hold their own against their troublesome neighbours. But now, while the Macdougalls lost alike lands and position, the Campbells, having been fortunate enough or shrewd enough to range themselves on the winning side, were steadily advancing in wealth and influence. For his services to the Royal cause, Sir Neil of Lochow not only was rewarded with extensive grants from the forfeited estates of the Macdougalls, Comyns, and others, but also received at the same time the hand of the King's sister, Lady Mary Bruce, in marriage; thus in effect mounting to the very steps of the throne.

There is no reason to suppose that the relations of the new chiefs of Lorne with the neighbouring clan were otherwise than friendly; for, both families being devoted supporters of the Stewart dynasty, their interests would be so far identical. John Stewart, son and successor of the last-mentioned chieftain of the same name, was created a Lord of Parliament by James II., in the year 1445, that is, exactly seven years before the like dignity was conferred on the chief of the Campbells; the barony of Lorne being in fact one of the very first by creation in the Peerage of Scotland. This Lord of Lorne had married a daughter of his Royal kinsman Robert, Duke of Albany; while Archibald, the son and heir of Sir Duncan Campbell of Lochow (first Lord Campbell), had obtained the hand of this lady's sister, Margery Stewart. The two families had thus been brought into close relationship. They were destined to be still more closely allied. To the house of Lorne were born of the above marriage three daughters; the fruit of the other union was Colin Campbell, for whom it was reserved, by securing the hand of his cousin Isabel, the eldest of the three daughters of Lorne (a match arranged by the young chief's uncle and guardian, Sir Colin Campbell of Glenorchie), to pave the way for his securing likewise the immediate transfer of the barony of Lorne, along with the chieftainship of Argyll, to himself and his family. Shortly after succeeding his grandfather (his father having pre-deceased), the young Baron was raised to the Earldom of Argyll (1457).

And now we come to the transactions by which more immediately these bright jewels were added to the coronet of the present House of Argyll. John of Lorne, some years before his death, had executed a deed of settlement in favour of his own brothers, the Stewarts of Innermeath, as next male heirs. This deed was confirmed by charter under the Great Seal in 1452. Walter Stewart, the eldest surviving brother, claimed and succeeded to the estate and dignity; the lands of the barony, however, being now much curtailed by the marriage portions given away with the old chief's daughters. The new Lord—whether from a dislike to residing in the far west, or from a wish to have his estates within easier distance of each other—before he had been a year in possession, was induced to take a most important step as regards the destiny of the lordship. This was nothing less than the granting of an indenture (1469), binding himself to resign the lordship of Lorne in favour of Colin, Earl of Argyll, in exchange for the lands of Kildonning, Baldonning, and Inverdonning, in Perthshire; the lands of Culrain, in Fife, and Culkerry, in Kinross; the Earl on his part binding himself to use his influence (which, as shall be seen immediately, was very great) to procure for him the title of Lord Innermeath: all

* It is noteworthy, too, that the other two heiresses of Lorne were married to cadets of the Campbell family; one of these being the knight of Glenorchie, the founder of the noble house of Breadalbane.

which was done. These agreements and transfers are noticed in the public records of the day, and by various writers. How the last transaction was regarded by the collateral heirs does not appear. Clearly, it was an infringement of the deed of settlement, but that seems to have been got over in some way.

Thus, then, after being held by the Macdougalls for upwards of 200 years, and by the Stewart family for about sixty more, the Lordship of Lorne, the cradle of Scottish monarchy, with the conjunct chieftainship of Argyll, passed to the great family of the Campbells, and MacCallum More, the first Earl of Argyll, as the heraldic phrase is, added the galley of Lorne to his paternal achievement (the bear's head). The title was confirmed to the Earl and his heirs by charter dated 1470.

We may add here that much curious information, traditional and historical, concerning the Argyll family, is contained in two little books, the one entitled "The Marquis of Lorne and the Clan Campbell," published by John Hogg, York-street, Covent-garden; and the other, "The MacCallum More; a History of the Argyll Family from the Earliest Times," by the Rev. Hely Smith, and published by Bensons and Sons. This last-named book contains a pedigree showing the descent of the present Marquis of Lorne from Gillespie Campbell, who, in pre-historic times, married Eva, heiress of Paul O'Dwin, Lord of Lochow, and by that union laid the foundations of the fortunes of his family.

BRITISH COINS.

THE Deputy-Master of the Mint (Mr. Freemantle), in his first annual report, recently issued, begins the series with a short historical account of our coinage. Before the introduction of British gold coins, in the reign of Henry III., gold pieces of about the value of 10s., coined at Constantinople, and known as byzants, circulated freely in England; and at a subsequent period coins of the same value called florentines, being originally struck at Florence. In the reign of Edward III. the gold noble was issued, and in the reign of Edward IV. the angel and rose noble, or rial. These were followed by the double rial, or sovereign, of Henry VII., which was to pass for 20s.; and by the laurel of James I., of which the current value was also to be 20s. The latter coin was adopted by Charles II. at the Restoration, and was subsequently called a guinea, originally issued as a 20s. piece, but, having risen in current value, was finally ordered, by proclamation, in 1718, to pass for 21s. sterling. The present sovereign, or 20s. piece, was issued by proclamation, dated July 1, 1817, under the authority of the Act 56 of George III., cap. 68. Several other denominations of gold coins have at different times been current; among them the five-pound, three-pound, and two-pound pieces, and the half-guinea, and third of a guinea, or seven-shilling piece. The five-pound and two-pound pieces are still among the current coins of the realm, but, as there is no demand for them, no coins of these denominations have been struck for general circulation during the present reign. The silver coinage of England can boast of some antiquity. At the time of the Conquest the pound in tale of silver coins, the pound weight of standard silver, was equal to twenty shillings, and each shilling to twelve pence, weighing 1 dw. or 24 grs. Henry I. added silver halfpence, or mailles, and farthings. Groats were first coined in the reign of Edward I., shillings in the reign of Henry VII., crowns in that of Henry VIII. In the reign of Edward VI. mention is first found of sixpences and threepenny pieces. No further changes were made in the denominations of silver coins until the introduction of the florin, in 1849. Copper coins have been in circulation from the reign of Charles II.; bronze since 1860. Tin was also used for coinage in 1680, when farthings were struck in that metal with a stud of copper let into the centre; and again in 1690-1, when both halfpence and farthings were issued. Coins of comparatively worthless metal of James II. were arbitrarily made current in Ireland at exorbitant rates, and their withdrawal from circulation by William III. is still remembered in that country. The coins and medals struck during the fourteenth and succeeding centuries are remarkable for beauty of design and execution. Edward III. caused gold nobles to be struck with a design representing the King standing in a ship and armed with sword and shield to commemorate the naval victories gained over the French; and this design remained on gold coins struck for above two centuries. In more modern times the reverse of the coin has been devoted to an inscription indicating its denomination and a wreath surrounding the inscription. The florin shows an attempt to improve upon this practice by the adoption of a Gothic treatment of the inscription and by reverting to an ancient arrangement of the Royal coat of arms. A very successful example of the strictly classical style, substituting a natural figure for the usual conventional design, is found in Pistrucchi's well-known George and Dragon. This design still appears on the reverse of sovereigns and crowns struck in the reign of George IV., and, under a recent Order in Council, has again been adopted, as an alternative design with the present, for sovereigns of Queen Victoria. No crowns or half-crowns have been issued since 1851, and no groats (or fourpenny-pieces) since 1850; silver fourpences, threepences, twopences, and pence are struck every year for distribution as her Majesty's Maundy money; but the fourpenny-piece is of a different design from the groat in general circulation.

The Deputy-Master further states that the title of "Master of the Mint" first appears in the reign of Henry I., when Godwin Socho was Master of the Winchester Mint. The "Master" was in those days the contractor under the Crown for the coinage, and his proceedings were checked by a "warden," and afterwards also by a "comptroller." The first warden appears to have been Henry de Cornhill, who held the appointment in the reign of Richard I., and the comptroller is first mentioned in the time of Edward II. These three officers delivered distinct accounts to the Crown, and their appointments were maintained on the same footing until a comparatively recent period. In times when learning was to a great extent confined to the clergy, ecclesiastics were frequently named to important posts in the Mint, and Bishop Latimer, in a sermon preached at St. Paul's in 1543, condemned the practice with much force of language. Speaking of bishops and priests, he says, "They are otherwise occupied: some in king's matters, some are ambassadors . . . some comptrollers of myntes. Well, well! Is this their denetie? Is this their calling? Should we have ministers of the Church to be comptrollers of the myntes? . . . I would fayne knowe who comptrolleth the devil at home at his parische while he comptrolleth the Mynte?" Sir Isaac Newton was, in the reign of William and Mary, appointed Warden of the Mint, and in 1718 was transferred by George I. to the Mastership, in which capacity, as contractor for the coinage, he amassed a considerable fortune. The other chief officers of the Mint were the "Cuneator"—whose duties have in later times been discharged by the "Clerk of the Irons," or officer charged with the custody of the dies—and the Assay Master, who pronounced upon the fineness of the bullion brought in for coinage, and of the coins issued. In earlier times the Sovereign was accustomed to send into the Mint for coinage the produce of his own silver mines, and claimed the exclusive privilege of purchasing the precious metals. This privilege was delegated to other persons, who received old and clipped coin and issued new. On all these operations a seniore was levied, which formed a considerable part of the Royal revenues. When gold was first coined, in the reign of Henry III., therefore, the Crown purchased bullion or foreign coins to be coined into English money; but bullion was also brought in by merchants, who were bound to deliver a certain quantity, in proportion to the weight of various articles imported by them. It was a matter of so much importance, indeed, to obtain bullion for coinage, that several instances are recorded in which the aid of alchemists was called in to effect the transmutation of baser metals into gold, and the gold from which the nobles of Edward III. were coined was said to have been produced by occult sciences.

Literature.

Anteros. A Novel. By the Author of "Guy Livingstone." Three vols. London: Chapman and Hall.

The author of "Guy Livingstone" appears to be a very learned person, and is, perhaps, a very clever person; but we cannot help thinking that the learning is misplaced—in novels, and the cleverness misused—in writing such a novel as "Anteros." The author's learning is displayed, first, in adopting a Greek word for the title; and, second, in freely quoting French, Latin, and even Greek in the body of the book. Of the Greek, to be sure, he is kind enough to give a translation in a foot-note; but, except to enable the author to air his classical erudition, there is no reason why the foot-note translation should not have been incorporated in the text: an arrangement which would have saved both author and reader some trouble. The author's seeming pedantry, however, is the least of his faults. His book is pervaded from beginning to end by a thoroughly unwholesome tone, and is calculated to convey impressions which we believe to be entirely false. The book, certainly, has one merit—a large portion of it is excessively dull and commonplace; and our advice to readers of "Anteros" would be this:—"Skip from the middle of the first to the middle of the third volume; the opening and closing moieties will give you the gist of the story, though they will not by any means constitute edifying reading." If one might judge by the pictures drawn by the author of "Guy Livingstone," the whole duty of man—or, at all events, the chief occupations of men in the upper ranks of life—consist in hunting, talking slang, flirting, and coveting their neighbours' wives; some of said wives being equally engaged in coveting men other than their husbands. And all this, we are expected to believe, is of such common occurrence among the class of lords and ladies, squires and squires, depicted in these volumes, as to be no way extraordinary—nay, quite natural, though, of course, very wicked, as the author, by numerous wise reflections, is careful to indicate. Indeed, he does not stint that sort of antidote; but why should the moral poison have been exhibited at all, and so recklessly? For instance, the heroine, Lady Atherstone, is coveted by Caryl Glynn, Arthur Corbett, and we know not how many more; and finally elopes from her husband's house with the first-named gentleman. Then, Mrs. Cissy Devereux is coveted by Major Colville, and, seemingly, by the aforesaid Caryl Glynn, besides hosts of others. Indeed, Mrs. Devereux appears to have imported and acclimatised the institution of *cavalier serviente* once prevalent on the Continent, for she always has some lover or other dangling after her; Mr. Devereux quite acquiescing in the arrangement, only stipulating, apparently, that his wife's lover for the time being shall be a jolly fellow and a keen hunter: in short, a man according to his own heart. Finally—though we have not exhausted the catalogue of would-be breakers of the tenth commandment and candidates for notoriety in the Divorce Court—there is Sir Manners Mannering, who covets all the pretty women he meets abroad, be they maids, wives, or widows, and, it is hinted, beats his own spouse at home. As specimens of the style of thing to be met with in "Anteros," take the following passages from a tête-à-tête between Mrs. Devereux and Caryl Glynn. Says the fair Cissy, speaking of one lover to another:—

"He really did like me; and, I daresay, likes me still."

The bitter emphasis on the pronoun did not escape Caryl; but he only lifted his brows, as if this view of the case had not struck him before.

"That would rather complicate matters, to be sure. But, though Major Colville, I fancy, has a will of his own, and is a little too apt to swagger, I give him credit for tact; and his 'likings'—that's a nice way of putting it—needn't make him forget his *savoir vivre*. As for me, I am not quarrelsome; and, if I can keep my temper with your husband, I'm not likely to lose it with your friend. Besides"—

The angry tears sprang into her eyes.

"I don't want any more sham reasons," she broke in. "The real reason is, that you never cared two straws for me, and care still less now. I suppose I'm to thank Lena Atherstone for this. I will thank her some day."

Caryl intimates his intention of leaving the neighbourhood; but hints that he might return, on proper encouragement being given; whereupon Mrs. Devereux thus demurs herself:—

"You will come back—and soon," she said, in a lower whisper yet. Then bowing her head, she pressed her lips, almost timidly, upon the hand she held.

We leave our readers to judge whether this sort of thing be a true picture of social life among the higher classes in England, or wholesome reading for any class. For our part, we think it as untrue as it is naïve. Our aristocratic orders, we daresay, are as prone to frailty as other classes, though not more so; and that there are "black sheep" among them, as among other classes, is unfortunately too true; but to imply, as the author of "Anteros" does, that they are habitually and systematically immoral, we believe to be a libel—the testimony of the author of "Anteros" notwithstanding.

Jasmine Leigh. By C. C. FRASER-TYTLER. London: Strahan and Co.

The authoress of this book bears a name which would ensure for it a favourable reception, even though its own merits were very far below what they are; but it has merits of its own, and of a high order, too. It is supposed to be the diary, or autobiography, of a lady, beginning with her childhood and running on through life; and sweet, gentle, and thoroughly feminine (in the best sense of the word) are the feelings and sentiments recorded, while the incidents are natural and the narrative smooth and flowing. No affectation of superior goodness is apparent, because the narrator is entirely unconscious of superiority in any way; but she really is good, and most wholesome reading her diary is. In short, an admirable book for genuine young ladies, because the recorded life of purity must always be most suitable mental food for purity that may never have any printed record at all. We congratulate the authoress on the production of a book in all respects so emphatically good as "Jasmine Leigh."

Collects of the Church of England. London: Macmillan and Co.

The very pretty art of illumination, examples of which are now to be seen in the windows of most of our stationers' shops, has become such a frequent amusement for young people, that this very charming book will surely be appreciated in thousands of families. Not only is each collect beautifully printed in colours, so as to occupy a page of large readable type, but the initial corner on the head of each page is adorned with an appropriate— we might almost say a representative—flower or plant, with the natural hue of leaf and petal delicately and yet vividly represented. The preface to the volume explains why certain flowers have been chosen to illustrate the sacred text, and their metaphorical reference to the festivals or solemn anniversaries of the Church, while the index includes the common and botanical names of each. Even the cover of the binding shares in the illumination; and the volume is, we venture to say, a most exquisite gift-book, and admirably adapted for an Easter offering.

Poems, Descriptive and Lyrical. By THOMAS COX. London: Longmans and Co.

This is the second edition—or, rather, a new edition with some amendments, and, we think, a few fresh sonnets—of a little book already spoken of with some commendation in our columns. Mr. Cox keeps Pegasus at a pleasant steady trot, and never allows him to become rampant. There is a healthy simplicity and purity of thought in his poetry which, though it may sometimes lack force in expression, is at least carefully, and even elegantly, presented to the reader. Those who have learnt to admire only the high flights and gorgeous colouring, the minute word-painting or the unbridled alliteration, of some modern verse, will, perhaps, feel that certain of Mr. Cox's lines are cold, and even too studied,

in expression; while occasionally there is a want of completeness in the image which should be conveyed to the mental perception, in consequence, perhaps, of a certain mechanical slowness. The pictures are drawings rather than paintings, in more than one instance. These, however, are but occasional defects, if they are to be regarded as defects at all; and in many passages there are evidences of real power, and with it a clear-sightedness that accords well with the evident knowledge of various metre which the writer has acquired. In the sonnets—certainly not the least difficult form of versification—Mr. Cox displays remarkable facility—a cadence that has the true ring in it. To many quiet readers, who take up a book that it may suggest pleasant thoughts, and not that it may gratify their taste for adverse criticism, this little volume will be a welcome companion in a leisure hour.

Ince and Gilbert's Outlines of Technical Knowledge. By D. MURRAY SMITH. London: W. Kent and Co.

In these days of school boards, technical education, and the elements of natural science, it is an excellent thing to interest pupils in the outlines of the subjects to which their attention is afterwards to be more specially directed; and this plain little book, clearly printed, and bound in stiff covers with a cloth back, will be of service to teachers as well as scholars. Its price is but a shilling; and it proceeds on the plan of making the "outlines" a narrative of the main facts and data of the sciences, dealt with consecutively and clearly by an author who, being a practical teacher, knows the difficulty of giving a special science lesson at stated times during the work of a large school. To meet this difficulty the present work is designed as a reading-book, which will at the same time include a lesson in elementary science; and in about 150 closely but clearly printed pages conveys sound information on the definitions and most important particulars to be remembered in physiology, natural philosophy, electricity, magnetism, chemistry, metallurgy, mechanics, geology, and mineralogy. What is most surprising in the book is that it imparts this knowledge in very easy language, and with a certain lightness of style that bears a close resemblance to the best oral teaching.

THE "WAR-OFFICE SCANDAL."

THE Public Accounts Committee was occupied on Wednesday afternoon with the duty of sifting the so-called "War-Office scandal." No more disagreeable task could be well imagined; and it is only fair to say that, in spite of the inherent difficulties of such an inquiry, the Committee obtained all the information necessary to put the public in a position to form its own estimate of the practice of the War-Office authorities. Nearly the whole of the sitting was occupied in the examination of Sir William Brown, who retired last year from his post as Accountant-General at the War Office on a knighthood and a handsome pension. It appears from Sir W. Brown's own admission that from the first imposition of the income tax in 1842 down to 1868, there had been no question of any of the Commissioners of income tax appropriating to themselves any of the poundage allowed by the Inland Revenue to the collectors and assessors of income tax in the War Office. In 1868, however, it was represented to the three Commissioners—viz., the Accountant-General, Mr. (now Sir W.) Brown, the chief auditor, Mr. Whiffin (who has now succeeded to the place left vacant by Sir W. Brown's retirement), and Mr. Talbot, the chief clerk—that, after providing for the remuneration of the various clerks employed in adjusting income-tax claims, there still remained a surplus of £2343. The overworked Commissioners had no time to refer either to the Act of Parliament to learn their duties, or to the Treasury for directions as to the disposal of the surplus, but one of them, having found an opportunity for a few minutes' conversation with a high official in the Paymaster-General's office, learnt from him that in that department the Treasury had sanctioned a division of the allowance made by the Inland Revenue in lieu of poundage, among all the members of the office. Without any further hesitation the surplus was forthwith transferred to a drawing account at the Bank of England in the names of the three Commissioners—and thus removed from all cognisance of the Secretary of State for War. Soon afterwards a general distribution of this sum was considered, and the basis of the calculation upon which it was made exactly coincided with Mr. Brown's tenure of the office of Accountant-General. It was decided that each of the three Commissioners should receive remuneration from this fund for the eight years preceding the date of the distribution—that is, from 1860—Mr. Brown's share being £600, Mr. Whiffin's £320, and Mr. Talbot's £240. But the minds of these gentlemen were very sensitive. Since 1860 two gentlemen who had also acted as Commissioners had retired, and it was determined to allow them to assist in getting rid of this troublesome surplus. Consequently, Mr. Drury and Mr. Hollings were called upon to accept £380 and £320 respectively. Since 1868 the Commissioners have consented to receive £70 per annum each.

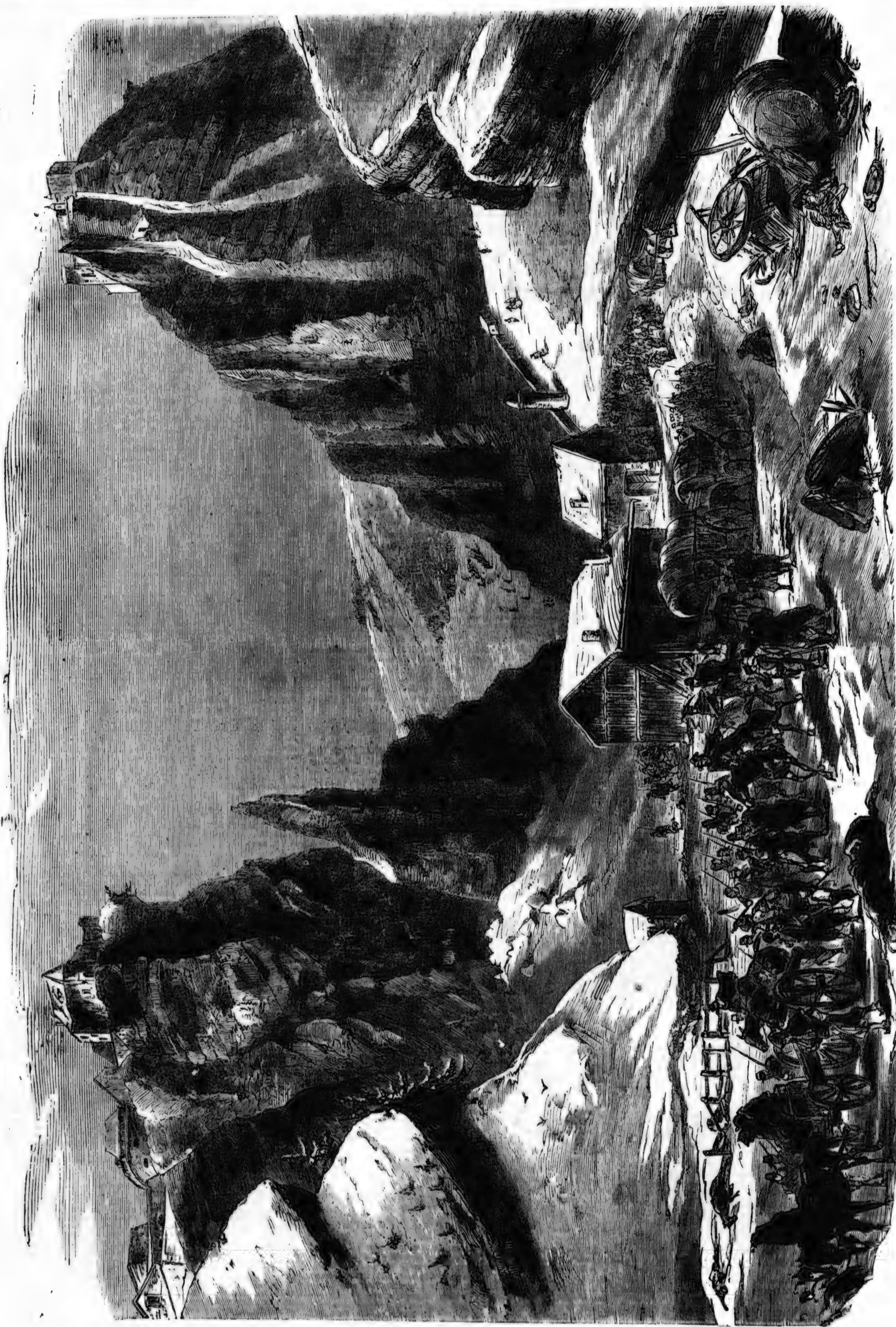
We have only been able to glance briefly at the details of this strange transaction. It never seems to have occurred to any of these gentlemen that they were acting in direct opposition to the Act of Parliament which they had been appointed to administer, or to apply to the Treasury or to the Inland Revenue for counsel and advice with regard to the disposition of the surplus funds. We ought to add that all three of these officers have within the last few days refunded the greater part, if not the whole, of the sums received by them for poundage; but, in the words of their spokesman, Sir William Brown, "they confidently expect that this sum will be recognised as due to them and repaid accordingly." Our confidence in this view being entertained by the Public Accounts Committee and the House of Commons is not so strong as Sir William Brown's.—*Daily News.*

THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.—The London School Board discussed, on Wednesday, a motion by Professor Huxley, the object of which was to restrict Bible reading in elementary schools to selections submitted to and approved by the board. Upon this an amendment was moved by the Rev. Frederick Thorold directing the Committee on the Schemes of Education to select for approval a course of Bible readings, and giving discretion to the teachers to choose special passages, as occasion might arise. A discussion of some length ensued, the result of which was that both the resolution and the amendment were rejected.

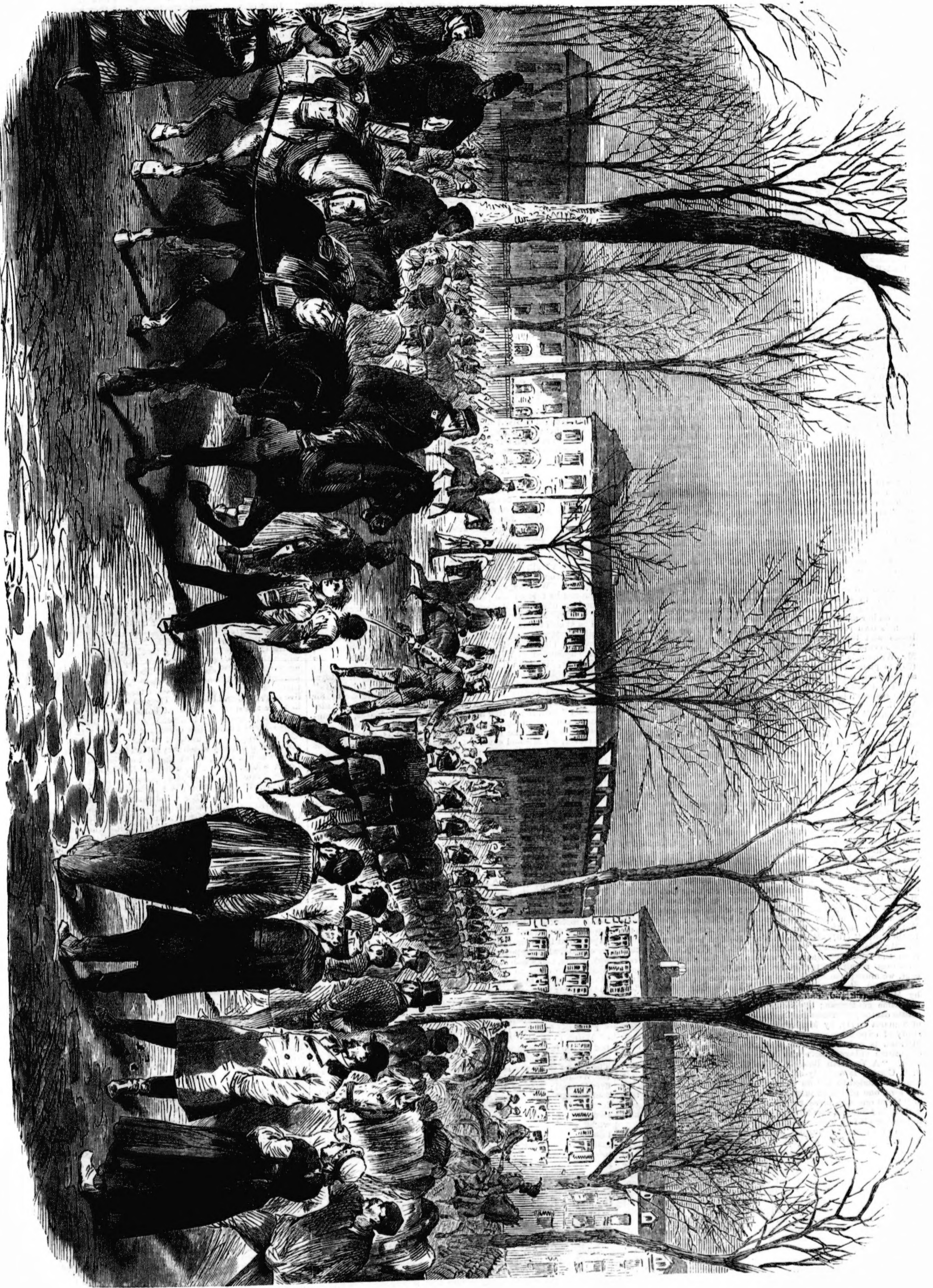
THE BIRMINGHAM SCHOOL BOARD.—A resolution deferring the payment of fees to denominational schools until compulsory by-law should be prepared was, on Wednesday, carried in the Birmingham School Board. It was also resolved that it would be impossible to enforce compulsory attendance until new schools had been provided. The force of the first decision was, however, afterwards qualified by the adoption of an amendment, instructing a committee to prepare by-laws regulating the payment of fees by poor children. The Nonconformist members of the board declined to act upon this committee.

SCIENTIFIC EDUCATION.—The first report of the Royal Commission on Scientific Instruction, of which the Duke of Devonshire is chairman, was issued on Wednesday. It recommends the consolidation of the School of Mines and the College of Chemistry as a science school, to be governed by a council of professors. Mathematics, it is proposed, should be added to the courses of instruction now given; and sufficient laboratories and assistance for giving practical instructions in physics, chemistry, and biology should be provided. The Commission recommends that the science school should be accommodated in the buildings, now nearly completed, at South Kensington, for the projected School of Naval Architecture and Science.

BUSINESS OF PARLIAMENT.—The Select Committee on the Business of the House of Commons (of which the Chancellor of the Exchequer was chairman) concluded its labours on Tuesday, and agreed to report several recommendations to the House. Amongst them, we believe, are the following:—That the Session shall commence in November instead of February (proposed by Mr. Disraeli, and carried by a majority of one). That on days when the House meets early no motion to count shall be made until fifteen minutes after the hour for reassembling in the evening. That no opposed business shall be taken after half-past twelve o'clock at night. That on Monday the Government shall have power to move the Committee of Supply at once, and that the notices by private members shall no longer have precedence on that night. The proposition to meet in November will be strongly and probably successfully opposed.



DISARMING THE LAST OF DOUBDAKI'S ARMY AT FORTS JOUX AND LARMONT, ON THE SWISS FRONTIER.—(SEE PAGE 186.)



THE AVENUE DE PARIS, VERSAILLES, DURING THE GERMAN OCCUPATION.—(SEE PAGE 196.)

FINE ARTS.

SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

FIRST NOTICE.

THE forty-eighth annual exhibition in Suffolk-street includes so great a number of important works that we cannot well dispose of them in a single notice, and therefore begin with the "Large Room," where the catalogue of the gallery also commences. There are nearly 200 paintings in this section of the exhibition, and most of them are landscapes of conspicuous merit and charming variety. The first of them, "A View on the Wye," by Mr. E. S. Rowley, is over the door, and at once attracts attention by its vivid colouring; while No. 2, "A Surrey Valley," by Mr. J. C. Adams, is an admirable example of solid handling and careful finish, especially in foliage. A very charming little picture by Mr. J. C. Ward is taken "On Loch Etive, with Dunstaffnage Castle in the Distance" (6), the water being admirable in its translucent quality. Another excellent quiet piece of work, with great depth and tone, is Mr. J. Peel's "Old Bridge at Onwlln, South Wales" (8). "Parting Day" (12), by Mr. A. Clint, is vigorous; but the light, doubtless true to nature, is scarcely well handled in its effects, leaving a brassy glare that is unpleasant to the eye. M. A. Pantou's "Passing Shower on the Deveron, Banffshire" (13), is exquisitely cool and sweet, its sky and cloud being rendered with consummate skill. "Hill Cross, near Freshwater" (14), by Mr. A. Glendening, is another very attractive painting, with excellent distance and sense of atmosphere. Mr. J. Tennant sends a "Scene in Surrey" (18), with admirable liquid water and careful finish. A very pretty little bit of scenery, "A Summer Day on the Lea Marshes" (20), by Miss Isabel Bennett, should appeal to every East-End who visits the gallery. Those who have gone boating or angling up the old Lea river should recognise that quiet, rural spot, and may easily covet the little painting that renders it so faithfully. Two of Mr. A. Corbould's beautiful cattle-pieces—"Highland Cattle, Loch Lomond" (26) and "West-Highland Cattle" (28)—are both full of fine colour and finish, combined with decision of drawing.

Mr. J. Tennant's large picture showing a distant view of the Pass of Nantfragon, the Valley of the Ogwin and Village of Bethesda (29) is one of the finest works in the gallery, because of its grand lights and shadows. The clouds and the atmosphere are intended to express "a lull before a storm," and when we have said that it succeeds to a wonder in conveying the strange sheen mingled with gloom that belongs to such a condition of the weather we need say little more in its praise. It is a magnificent success. "St. Catherine's Chapel, Guildford," by Mr. R. Gallon, is also a fine picture. The thickly-wooded slopes and the rare management of the dark defined shadows of tree and bank in the still depths of the water, are suggestive of high talent and great power in dealing with the material of art. Mr. W. L. Wyllie's "Sunshine on the Solent" (34) is one of that gentleman's capital effects of white light on rippling water. A realistic bit of painting will be seen in Mr. Henry's excellent little picture, "The Beach at New Lyn" (39); and Mr. George Cole has sent a glorious corn-field, bounded by a wooded upland, under the title of "Harvesting" (41), full of deep, mellow colour and fine even treatment. "Where the Rushes Like to Grow" (49), by Mr. G. Hastings, is a pretty bit of water; a slow, placid stream, with banks that would tempt a Waltonian, because of the suggestion of silvery dace and perch dancing in and out the weeds and sedge of the cool banks. Mr. J. Danby's "Evening" (55), is a nice little cattle-piece, with admirable light and middle distance. "Isaac Walton Fishing in the Colne" (74), by Mr. E. M. Ward, R.A., is another exquisite bit of fresh-river scenery; to which is added the grave, placid face and figure of the father of British angling, and the buxom form of the milkmaid on her morning journey. This is a picture to hang on a wall in one's own room, close to the cabinet where we keep the fly-books and the rods, the best copies of "The Angler" and "Somerville," and other books of a like nature. It is well that Mr. Williams's "Ice-Cart, Winter Morning, on Barnes-common" (76), is placed near the fire, for it makes one shiver to gaze at it, so admirable is its wintry look.

"Yarmouth Jetty" (81), by Mr. Ch. Nursey, is a pretty little bit of realism; but perhaps the boldest sea-piece in the room is by Mr. E. Hayes—"Fishing-Smack leaving the Harbour of Great Yarmouth" (84), grand and broad in execution, with great tone and atmosphere.

Mr. Pantou's "View on the Thames near Shepperton" (85) might be called another angling picture, so suggestive is it of those quiet haunts that are loved by brethren of the "gentle craft." Mr. Vicat Cole's "Sketch in St. Bride's Bay" (92) is a very excellent bit of running wave; and "Hampstead Heath" (93), by Mr. L. C. Miles, is full of fine shadow and real effect. A large picture by Messrs. J. and J. S. Noble, representing Roman peasants preparing to cross the Campagna at evening (97), is large and well conceived, but is rather poor in execution, and unpleasing in colour; a characteristic which is not a defect, however, since it is designed to represent that strange, pale light that indicates the sickly time of the day. In this it is eminently successful.

"Fort d'Ambleuse" (105), by Mr. J. J. Wilson, is another fine sea-piece, bold and intense in character; and "Thunder-Clouds Gathering at Harvest Time" (114), by Mr. H. Moore, is among the best of the paintings noticeable for their cloud effects. Mr. George Cole's "St. Michael's Mount, from Marazion" (140), is full of beautiful light and pearly colour; and the same subject from a different point of view has been painted by Mr. J. P. Pettit (160). With a mere mention of Mr. J. C. Ward's charming "View on the Little Neath" (167), Mr. C. Jones's "Rest on the Moors" (169), and Mr. Wainwright's "Summer Morning" (170), we must turn from the landscapes in this room to the few figure and genre paintings requiring particular notice. Among these, however, we must place Mr. G. Earl's "Monarque" (10), the portrait of a grand St. Bernard mastiff. "Tiny's Big Friend" (95), by Mr. H. Garland, and "Three of the Company" (173), by the same gentleman; the latter an admirable picture of three astute canine performers resting by the big drum. "The Woman of Samaria" (11), by Mr. Lumley, is an excellent and suggestive study of expression; and "A Lock Out" (22), by Miss Jessie M'Leod, is a half-humorous and altogether pretty picture of a coquettish village gossip who finds herself belated at a cottage-door. "A Venetian Balcony—The Gift Refused" (43), by Mr. S. B. Clarke, is a finely-coloured figure of a girl rejecting a bouquet handed to her on the end of a wand. Mr. Haynes King has sent one of his exquisitely-finished pictures, under the title of "From one who loves me dearly" (78)—a poor cottage girl, with all her humble surroundings, stopping at her spinning-wheel to lose herself in a welcome letter.

One of the most charming little pictures in the whole room is Mr. J. Morgan's "Peep" (24)—a group of poor children at play; so full of real healthy child-like vigour and innocent fun, and so full, too, of a certain reality that makes them pretty by the force of animated expression, that it will attract much attention, small as it is in size, and easy, if not careless, as it is in execution. "Doubtful" (45), by Mr. J. Gow, is a nice picture of a village servant-girl taking a shoe to a cobbler to be mended—the doubt probably being as to the possibility of completing the job while the fair messenger is waiting. Mr. D. Pasmore sends a capital little bit of character and colour under the title of "Let the Toast Pass" representing a half-revealed interior, with roystering cavaliers drinking, while a charming waitress, or daughter of "mine host," is going away by the outer door on some errand. Mr. Valentine Bromley's large picture of the capture of Gaveston and his forcible seizure by the Earl of Warwick (126) has great merit, and yet is wanting in character and that intensity of expression that would have made it remarkable. Mr. W. Bromley also sends a large work, a scene from the "Fortunes of Nigel," representing the discovery of his disguised daughter by Master Heriot—fine in colour, and with considerable dramatic force both in the calm look of the goldsmith and the cowering, frightened look of the sweet and gentle figure by the fire.

MUSIC.

THE opera season at Covent Garden Theatre began, last Tuesday, with a performance of Donizetti's "Lucia di Lammermoor," in which the title rôle was filled by Mdlle. Mathilde Sessi. A bright and cheerful aspect was given to the house by the painting, cleaning, and general furbishing-up it has undergone since Mr. Harris's pantomime ceased to "run;" and, filled as the boxes and stalls were by a brilliant audience, the spectacle presented could hardly have been matched. So far all was fair and promising, but the performance proved out of keeping with its surroundings. Owing to the sudden illness of Signor Cotogni, who was to have played the important part of Henry Ashton, his place was taken, at short notice, by Signor Raguer, a gentleman whose knowledge of the music appeared limited to an imperfect acquaintance with the concerted pieces. Hence it was necessary to omit the two important duets in which Henry takes part, and, consequently, to deprive the story of all meaning, and the opera of completeness. However, the audience submitted quietly; though we cannot but think that another work should have been given instead of the mutilated "Lucia." Mdlle. Sessi has often impersonated Scott's heroine, and achieved, by the effort, as much success as her cleverness deserved. We need not dwell further upon what she did than to record that her old effects—such as they are—were duly made and duly applauded. That the lady failed to advance herself astonished nobody. There is a sharply-defined limit to Mdlle. Sessi's capacity, and that limit has already been reached. Signor Mongini was the Edgardo of the evening; and he, too, followed the "ancient lines" of a very familiar representation. The robust tenor was well received, and sang with as much energy as ever, particularly in the duet with Lucia (act i.), and in the famous scene of the "malediction." His "Fra poco" elicited loud applause and a recall. Signor Capponi made a ponderous-voiced Raymond; and Mr. Wilford Morgan an Arturo who appeared less ill at ease than representatives of the part generally do. No fault could be found with the chorus; but the band evidently wants drilling to bring it up to the mark. Signor Vianesi conducted.

The Italian Opera Buffa, which peacefully died on Saturday last, has suddenly come to life again, announcing two extra performances—one, of Petrella's "Le Precauzioni," to take place last night; the other, of "Il Matrimonio Segreto," to be given this evening. Petrella's work may have interested few; but amateurs will welcome another chance of hearing Cimarosa's melodious and masterly opera. After to-night the Opera Buffa definitely closes for the season. Will there be another season?

The general musical doings of the week have been much influenced by the opening of the Albert Hall, and, consequently, we have to mention but few concerts. Madame Arabella Goddard took her benefit, in St. James's Hall, on Monday night, when she played, in that perfect style which belongs to herself alone, Schubert's sonata in B flat, besides taking part in Mozart's sonata in G for piano and violin and Mendelssohn's trio in D minor. Our great pianist never more completely asserted her unsurpassed powers of execution and expression, and was never more unreservedly accepted as an artist of whom England should be proud. MM. Joachim and Piatti shared with Madame Goddard in the above-named works, and were, we need not say, worthy associates. The vocalist was Mr. Santley, who, in his department as the *bénéficiaire* in hers, is *facile princeps*.

A performance of Sir J. Benedict's "St. Peter" took place in St. James's Hall, on Wednesday evening, under the direction of Mr. J. Barnby. No comment is needed upon a work so recently discussed. We may state, however, that the general effect was improved by further and judicious curtailment; and that the performance, of which Madame Sherrington, Madame Patey, Mr. Reeves, and Mr. Santley were principals, gave satisfaction.

The Welsh Choral Union gave a second concert in Store-street Hall, on Monday night, Miss Megan Watts being the principal vocalist. There was nothing to call for remark in the programme, which abounded in Welsh pieces, composed or arranged by the conductor, Mr. John Thomas.

As regards the music performed at the opening of the Royal Albert Hall, it must be stated that the "intelligent foreigners" present could hardly have gone away edified or impressed. Sir Michael Costa's cantata, "Oh! Praise the Lord," is of the "made-to-order" sort, suggesting nothing of the Divine afflatus, and containing nothing an amateur would care to hear repeated. The work is a clever one nevertheless, and skillfully put together. Moreover, Sir Michael must not be blamed for a choice of words which hampered him very materially. As to the miscellaneous concert which followed the departure of her Majesty, few listened to it, and those who went away lost little. Who is responsible for the selection of such well-worn stuff as "Ti prego," "Lascia ch'io pianga," the prayer from "Masaniello," "Salve dimora," and the overture to "Gazza Ladra"? Were these things fit for an occasion intended to be great and imposing? The answer is so obvious that we refrain from making it. After all, they served to show that the building is infested by echoes which sadly mar its utility for musical purposes.

COMMUNISTS AND COMMUNALISTS.

THE weakness of the Government and of the municipalities of Paris having left the insurgents masters of the ground, which it would have been easy to defend or to retake, the "Central Committee" have been able to proceed with their elections without being molested. Before examining into the result, which is, perhaps, less favourable to the men of the Hôtel de Ville than they expected, it is necessary to ascertain well the character of this new revolution, which appears to me to have no precedent in the history of any nation, and which is even at variance with all historical events which have come to our knowledge. I will venture to call the attention of the thinkers and the learned men of Great Britain to the singular phenomenon of which we are spectators. They cannot help being interested in a spectacle of which the first representation is in France, but which, if successful, will not fail to be soon enacted elsewhere.

From the first day, in spite of the veil in which the Revolution of March 18 enveloped itself, I pointed out the existence in the bed of the insurrection of two streams flowing together towards aims which are not identical, but which do not materially differ. The aim of one party is the predominance of the Proletariat over the Wealthy classes, of the Workman over the Master, of Labour over Capital; that of the other party is a Universal Republic, founded on free, sovereign, and confederate communes. The former regard the aim pursued by the latter as the necessary instrument of their Utopia; the latter consider that the end towards which their colleagues tend would, if attained, assure the realisation of their dream, and would give it strength and duration. I give both one and the other credit for entire good faith, for a disinterested pursuit of the plans which they think best calculated to fulfil the destinies of humanity; but I cannot deny that for both the allies all means are good, even the most detestable, even those which seem at first sight at variance with their principles. Above even the sovereignty of the people, which they pretend to make the basis of their edifice, they place their own especial aim.

To make myself clear, I will take the liberty of giving to these two allies two names which appear to me fairly to express their tendencies. I will call the first Communist, and the second Communalist. The first party is well known. I may even say it is the only one known. It exists in England and in Germany, in Switzerland and in France, and it forms a vast association under the name of the Internationale; but it is far from presenting everywhere the same characteristics that it does here. While it has remained in most industrial countries a league against the masters with a view to defending the interests of the workmen, and to raising the rate of wages, it has become in France a political party and a philosophical sect, if it may be permitted to give this title to what has nothing to do with either science or intellectual speculation.

He would be very clever who should succeed in arranging under

one form of doctrine the varied and often contradictory ideas with which the adepts of this great sect are inspired. Most of them only understand one thing, that they wish to possess and to enjoy. They do not choose that any superior, moral, social, or intellectual, should be placed above them; they choose, on the contrary, to impose their supremacy on all others. Their chiefs, the masters of the school, are not any better agreed on principles or their development. They form a sort of confused mixture of all the socialist and materialist schools which have divided human consciences since Divinity has been banished from them. Their ideas partake of those of Saint Simon and Fourier; but more especially of those of Cabot and Babeuf. It is Babeuf who has been in reality the precursor in France of what is being done there now; it is to his doctrines that we must revert if we wish to have the key to the Utopia which the Commune of Paris have undertaken to introduce into the domain of practical ideas. The doctors of this applied "Social Science" are—besides the men who have governed us for the last ten days—MM. Blanqui, Delescluze, Louis Blanc (the last, however, the most moderate and reasonable among them), Ramier, Mottu, Leo Mellier, and some others, whose names will not be long in starting up into notoriety. To these must be added the associates who succeeded in getting into the National Assembly at the last elections, and who, in receiving this consecration as statesmen, have on that account rather separated themselves from the party of which they were the chiefs. Such are MM. Millière, Tolain, and Malon. As for M. Felix Pyat, he is sure to be found wherever the work of destruction is to be done.

I should find some difficulty in passing in review here the chiefs of the Communist school, which has only shown itself outside the Hôtel de Ville, under unknown names, if we except those of MM. Lefrançois, Flourens, and Jules Vallés. Their ideas have become so entirely confused now with the Communist opinions that it is impossible any longer to distinguish between those who profess to hold to the Commune rather than to Communism, and those who are for Communism rather than for the Commune. It is easier to say in what the Communist ideas consist and to what they tend. The task is rendered easy by the last publications of the Central Committee.

At first the "enfranchisement" of the Proletariat was alone in question. This "enfranchisement" was the first word used to recruit the body of prolétaires. Almost immediately after it was desirable to disarm the bourgeois to dissolve the elements of defence, and there was much talk of their municipality, of their municipal franchise, of that dream of every good bourgeois, of Paris, "Paris governed by itself." In this way the Central Committee succeeded in establishing an understanding with the opposite camp, and in hastening the overthrow of the "great Party of Order." Having triumphed now over all resistance in the city, the Committee lays aside the mask and explains what it means by the "Commune of Paris." It will be seen that we are far removed from a merely municipal revolution, that famous and infamous "Commune of Paris" which imposed its sinister decrees on the Convention, the National Assembly of '93. It has, however, some points of resemblance to that; but how far it exceeds it in its views, its actions, its aims! The "Commune" of 1871 is sovereign and constituent. It draws up a "Charter" and "considers the means of obtaining recognition and guarantees for it from the central authority, whatever that may be." It recognises, therefore, the existence of a "central authority," and, curiously enough, does not insist upon this central authority being Republican. It may be what it pleases, provided it recognises our rights, our autonomy, and our independence. Such is the language of our modern "Commons." They do not, at any rate, conceal their origin; they speak in excellent terms of their forefathers of the Middle Ages, forgetting only two things which existed then—an ardent faith in the Divinity, and the feudal system which was inherited by the Commons themselves of those days, and the privileges of which they exercised. Neither do they disguise their readiness to use force against the rival "central authority," represented at present by the Assembly at Versailles, "should it wish to perpetuate its commission, and disallow the right claimed by Paris to live after its own fashion." They do not refuse, besides, to assist in their share of the general burdens. The "Commune" has no wish to usurp. "Federated with the other Communes of enfranchised France, the Commune will study the clauses of the contract which shall unite it to the nation, and offer the ultimatum of the treaty which they intend to sign." It is a new State, then, which is rising up at the foot of the hill at Montmartre, a Power which, by-and-by, will have its Government distinct from that of France, its budget, its finances, its army, and will treat as an equal with the rest of the nation. It will league itself, when necessary, with the other Communes, that its will may prevail, and it will form a "Federation." Here I must pause to remark (and this is the distinctive feature of this revolution) that, against all former experience, it is in the capital that the work of disintegration commences which is now active in changing a single State to a Federation. Till now all similar undertakings had been begun by the provinces against the capital; this time it is the capital which abdicates and forms itself into a free municipality, itself inaugurating the federal movement. It is a far more radical and thorough affair than the decentralisation asked for by the provinces; but it is an effect of the same cause—excess of centralisation. The ultimatum which Paris proposes to impose upon France is not merely to secure the autonomy and sovereignty of the Commune—that is to say, legislative and constituent rights—it is to secure also "the free play of the relations of the Commune with the representatives of national unity." "National unity," then, is recognised; but we may ask what it will be worth when it has been broken up into an infinity of communal republics. It might, however, be allowed to exist still in its "central authority." But the Commune of 1871 will take good care not to permit this. "It will insist upon the promulgation by the Assembly of an electoral law such that the representation of towns shall not in future be absorbed and, as it were, swamped in the representation of the country. On these conditions alone will the insurgent city become again the capital." And if the Assembly should reject these conditions, Paris will abdicate—Paris will refuse to remain the capital—Paris will resign itself to death? No; it will make its will triumph by force!

This, then, is the last word; the country in subjection, in moral slavery to the towns, paying taxes without voting them; the large towns confederated together—united whenever they are not disunited—making together laws for France or declaring war against one another for pre-eminence, or for the safeguard of their interests—a detestable project, which, if it could succeed, would soon destroy French unity, and, consuming the ruin of the nation, would make her a prey, first to civil war, and soon, like Poland, to mutilation and partition.

What a curious idea to wish thus to throw us back four or five centuries, to wish to imitate the small Italian Republics or the Flemish Communes, at the moment when other nations are grouping together and condensing in order to club their forces and their interests! Is not this a sign of decomposition and decline? And this is what our Communists call "Progress."—*Parisian Correspondent of the "Times."*

THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL, SOUTH KENSINGTON.—The Royal Albert Hall of Arts and Sciences was opened on Wednesday by the Queen, in the presence of the members of her family who are now in this country. The vast edifice was open for the reception of ticket-holders two hours before the arrival of the Royal party, and by the time her Majesty and the Prince of Wales reached the building, the arena, the balcony, the amphitheatre, and the galleries were filled. The Royal procession entered about half-past twelve, when the Prince of Wales read an address, to which the Queen replied that she was glad to be present at the opening of the Hall, and gave it her earnest wishes for its complete success. The Bishop of London having offered up a special prayer, the Prince of Wales, by her Majesty's desire, declared the hall open. Both on the way to the building, and on the return journey to Buckingham Palace, the Royal party was received with cordial cheering by the assembled crowds.

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